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SOVIET GENERAL EXAMINES 'OFFENSIVE' NATO POTENTIAL

LD271107 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 20 Nov 79 pp 2-3 LD

[Army Gen M. Kozlov article: "Bloc of Aggression and War: The Offensive Nature of NATO Armed Forces Groupings"]

[Text] Immediately after the end of World War II the imperialist powers' most reactionary circles began preparing an aggressive war against the USSR. As long ago as the late forties the United States drew up a plan to attack and military defeat the Soviet Union. This plan, codenamed "Trojan," provided for U.S. strategic air force nuclear strikes against major USSR political, administrative and economic targets.

However, the United States failed to implement this sinister design. To take its place American strategists drew up a new atomic war plan against the country called "Dropshot." At the first stage of the war it was planned to drop 300 atom bombs and many thousands of tons of conventional bombs on the Soviet Union. To fulfill the plan it was proposed to use 20 million U.S. and Allied NATO forces.

The "Dropshot" plan provided not only for the Soviet Union's nuclear defeat but also for its occupation and the "destruction of the robots of Bolshevism." Drawn up on the orders of U.S. President H. Truman, it was kept top secret. But American politicians and military figures made no special secret of their aggressive designs against the USSR and other countries which had embarked on the path of socialism. J. Dulles, then U.S. secretary of state, openly declared that "the United States must be ready to make a massive nuclear strike wherever and whenever it deems that necessary."

The change in the correlation of forces in the world arena frustrated imperialist reaction's sinister plans. Political and military strategists in NATO countries no longer dare to speak openly of their intention to unleash an aggressive war against the Soviet Union and the other Warsaw Pact states. Western propaganda now resorts to all kinds of tricks just to divert world public attention from its own militarist plans and to make it appear that not NATO but the Warsaw Pact threatens peace and security. The Soviet Union is portrayed as having initiated the arms race and as being to blame for it. The level of equipment and the high level of combat readiness in the USSR Armed Forces are quite groundlessly characterized as being in excess of defense requirements. All sorts of spurious scenarios of a "lightning" invasion of the FRG, Denmark, Austria and other West European countries by Soviet tank divisions without declaration of war are widely publicized as "proof."

In these provocative scenarios for the unleashing of war, as well as in other statements by anti-Sovietists, NATO is portrayed as a defensive organization, and its armed forces as a force supposedly created exclusively for defense.

Such fabrications represent deception of the peoples. The ostentatious facade of NATO love of peace and the campaign to intimidate the peoples with the "Soviet threat" conceal the aggressiveness of the North Atlantic alliance. The 30-year history of this military bloc's existence attests that it does not serve for defense at all. Its aggressive essence has repeatedly been shown in unleashing wars in various parts of the world. It is embodied in the structure of the military groupings which have been set up, in the direction taken in building the armed forces and in the whole system of troop training and education.

If we look at the present state of NATO Allied Armed Forces groupings it will be clear even to someone unversed in military matters that their size, the distribution and concentration of troops and arms in them and the nature of the training of troops and staffs far exceed the needs of defense and are of a clearly expressed offensive nature.

The strength of NATO Allied Armed Forces in Europe alone currently stands at more than 3 million men. But the bloc's armed forces as a whole number, according to figures given by the London Institute of Strategic Studies, approximately 5 million men, more than 80 divisions, 440 tactical-operational and tactical missile launchers, more than 17,000 tanks, 8,000 combat aircraft (including more than 2,000 aircraft capable of carrying nuclear weapons) and almost 1,500 warships. According to the same institute, the United States now has more than 8,000 nuclear warheads in West Europe.

The chief forces of the bloc countries' military grouping are concentrated in central Europe. Here there are as many as 40 divisions, more than 9,000 tanks and approximately 2,400 combat aircraft. The central European theater of military operations is considered the most important: Here, in the opinion of NATO strategists, the course and outcome of a war against Europe's socialist countries will be decided. The main grouping of the NATO Allied Armed Forces in central Europe is deployed in the immediate vicinity of the CSSR and GDR borders, in a combat formation suitable for the start of military operations, and is constantly maintained at a high level of combat readiness.

The second grouping of NATO armed forces in importance is in southern Europe, on the territory of Italy, Greece and Turkey and on the surrounding seas. More than 30 divisions, up to 6,000 tanks and approximately 1,000 combat aircraft are deployed in this region.

The North European theater of military operations is regarded as a bridgehead for air and seaborne strikes against vitally important centers and targets in the Soviet Union, Poland and the GDR. Here the air forces of Norway and Denmark as well as FRG Bundeswehr formations and units stationed on the territory of Schleswig-Holstein are at the NATO command's disposal. In "time of danger" additional Norwegian and Danish ground forces as well as FRG naval forces are to be placed under NATO command. The question of preparing a network of stores and bases in the theater of military operations, designed to insure the deployment of reinforcements arriving in the region, is under consideration.

For the purpose of building up the already tremendous strength of NATO's offensive groupings in West Europe, a system has been elaborated for their mobilization deployment and for the transfer of troops and weapons from the American Continent to Europe. "We are ready for a rapid buildup of forces in the event of tension," the FRG Government's 1979 White Paper states. According to NATO strategists' minimum estimates, they have at their disposal, in addition to total armed forces strength, a further 5 million trained first-phase reservists, including 200,000 officers and approximately 800,000 NCOs. In the NATO countries as a whole trained armed forces reserves total 16.5 million men, including 640,000 officers and 2.5 million NCOs.

To transfer troops and weapons from the American Continent to Europe it is planned, in addition to using military transport, to make extensive use of civil aircraft and merchant ships from all the bloc countries. It is planned here to ship approximately 1.5 million men and a large quantity of freight to the European theaters of military operations within a short time. By the mid-eighties it is planned to insure the possibility of trebling the American Air Force groupings in Europe in 1 week and doubling the number of ground forces there in 2 weeks.

The U.S. Defense Department recently began implementing a program to create so-called "combined operations bases." Its purpose, as the New York TIMES reported, is to "facilitate the use of more than 25 American fighter-bomber squadrons, which can be sent to Europe in the event of a crisis or war," and also to enhance the combat readiness of NATO forces in West Europe. The program provides for the American Air Force to use hundreds of airfields in European NATO countries--the FRG, Denmark, Norway, the Netherlands, Britain, Belgium, Italy and Iceland.

The tendency to build up the offensive possibilities of NATO's military potential can be clearly perceived in the building of the bloc's armed forces.

Over the past 15-20 years NATO's armed forces have grown steeply both quantitatively and qualitatively. Thus, during the period from the early sixties through the late seventies the numbers of nuclear warheads deployed in Europe and of delivery vehicles have almost doubled. The number of carrier aircraft has increased 20 percent, and the number of missile launchers and nuclear artillery pieces has trebled.

The ground forces' fighting strength has increased 20 percent in terms of the number of divisions and 25 percent in terms of the number of tanks over the same period. This period has been characterized by considerable enhancement of NATO armed forces groupings' combat potential. The first-generation missile systems (Corporal, Sergeant, Redstone and others) have been replaced by new, improved types (Lance, Pershing) with a considerably increased range, better maneuvering data, accuracy and rate of fire and high combat readiness.

Compared with the divisions of the early sixties, those of the late seventies possess broader potential for using both nuclear and conventional means of destruction. They are equipped with the latest models of arms and combat hardware, including nuclear weapons, a large number of modern tanks and other armored means. FRG and U.S. divisions are now powerful strike formations. Each has a personnel of 16,000-18,000 men, approximately 300 tanks, more than 700 armored carriers and infantry combat vehicles and more than 150 guns and mortars. The divisions are equipped with nuclear weapon carriers.

Over the same period the aircraft pool has been completely replaced within NATO's air forces. There has been a substantial improvement in the arming of aircraft which, in addition to nuclear weapons, now have high-explosive ammunition as well as television- and laser-guided weapon systems of high accuracy.

NATO's plans for the next 5 years provide for new qualitative growth in arms, combat equipment and troops' organizational structure--which is to insure, according to the bloc leaders' assessments, a further 20-25 percent increase in the troops' combat ability.

Which kinds of weapons are undergoing preferential development? Above all, aircraft--particularly long-range fighter-bomber aircraft designed to attack using nuclear and conventional weapons. These are the main strike weapon, that is, the means of conducting a nuclear offensive.

In the ground forces armored troops are enjoying preferential development. Every division will have within it more tank units than motorized infantry units. In terms of the number of tanks and other armored means the NATO mechanized (motorized infantry) divisions of the early eighties will substantially surpass the armored (tank) divisions currently in the NATO armed forces.

Salvo fire weapons with increased range are being developed, and the range of existing artillery systems is also being increased. Helicopters to give fire support to ground forces are being developed at a fast pace.

The question cannot help arising--for what purpose is all this being done? Undoubtedly not for defensive but offensive purposes. Those types of weapons and those qualities which can be utilized primarily and most effectively to conduct offensive operations are predominantly being developed within the NATO armed forces. To this same end troop mobility is being enhanced, airborne landing units and special helicopter units are being set up, and the combat readiness of the troop groupings is being built up.

Even in peacetime NATO's entire military system in Europe is in a high state of readiness. As is known, the Supreme Command, NATO Allied Armed Forces, Europe, and the armed forces supreme commands for theaters of military actions have been created here, control systems have been developed, the composition of the armed forces has been determined, supply and basing has been organized, operations are planned, tasks are set and a vast amount of work has been done on improving infrastructure. In short, everything essential for rapidly unleashing offensive military actions has been made ready.

At the same time various scenarios for waging war are being discussed. In particular, in a report to Congress U.S. Defense Secretary H. Brown defended the theory of short, sharp war: "...The emphasis on the modern form of brief, intensive war is not unexpected. Those on the attack, as a rule, are not interested in protracted operations."

The debate within the Pentagon concerning the expediency of "a preemptive strike under certain circumstances," using strategic facilities, against military targets on the territory of the Soviet Union, has become public knowledge. All this, of course, is not just talk. It is backed up by specific plans and provisions for war against the USSR and its allies. The basis of these plans is the dangerous schemes for a short, sharp war--plans that, it is envisaged, would be implemented by means of a rapid, lightning attack.

The idea of making preemptive strikes permeates the service regulations of the main NATO countries' armies and is also reflected in the combat and operational training of the armed forces.

It is essential to bear in mind, however, that in conducting exercises and maneuvers the NATO military leadership is pursuing not only military but also political goals. It is striving to create an operational background against which the Warsaw Pact countries appear to be the aggressor and the NATO countries the side defending itself, compelled to repeal an aggressor's attack and only then to go over to counterattack. If, however, one analyses the exercises conducted by NATO forces, it is not difficult to conclude that it is primarily questions of attack which are in fact being examined in them. Even on exercises with formally defensive themes, it is mainly offensive actions which are rehearsed.

The intensity of the NATO armed forces' combat and operational is evidence of their active training for war. Let us take for example the fall series of NATO joint and national armed forces maneuvers codenamed Autumn Forge 79, which have just ended in Europe. They lasted 2 months and encompassed an enormous territory from Norway to Turkey. Over 300,000 men, some 10,000 units of armored equipment, over 2,000 combat aircraft and 400 ships from the NATO armed forces were involved.

The question arises as to whether military exercises on so vast a scale are really necessary for normal combat training. One does not have to be a great military specialist to see that the aim of these exercises is to elaborate different versions of plans for unleashing war in Europe. Moreover, this fact was not particularly concealed by the organizers of the maneuvers. It was not without their knowledge that the Western press reported that during these exercises real plans are tested for war using both conventional and nuclear weapons and questions of waging large-scale offensive operation are elaborated.

The offensive nature of NATO armed forces has been revealed many times in practice. In the last two or three decades alone the United States and its bloc allies have waged an infamous war against sovereign Vietnam, carried out direct invasions of the Dominican Republic and other Central American countries as well as some Arab states, and undertaken aggression against Cuba, Laos, Kampuchea and other countries. According to one American institute, from 1946 through 1975 the United States used armed forces 215 times to secure its political aims in different regions of the world. In order to blackmail or pressure other countries, Washington administrations have repeatedly announced that U.S. Armed Forces are on full combat alert, and on 19 occasions overt or oblique threats have been made to use strategic nuclear forces.

The policy of flagrant U.S. and NATO interference in the internal affairs of many countries and peoples continues even today, and the material resources for pursuing it are expanding and improving all the time. This is confirmed by NATO strategists' statements that "the whole world now comes into NATO's sphere of interests"; by the creation in the United States of the so-called "quick reaction corps," designed for armed intervention in various parts of the world; by the expansion of armed strength in the Indian Ocean; by the American 7th Fleet's provocative operations off the shores of Vietnam; and by the show of military strength in the Caribbean. Of course, it is not for defensive purposes that the United States has encircled the Soviet Union and the socialist community countries with a sinister chain of numerous military bases. A large number of nuclear weapon carriers--so-called forward based facilities--are targeted from these bases against the territory of the USSR and other socialist countries.

These are facts which cannot be concealed behind the screen of the invented myth of the "Soviet threat." They testify that NATO, and especially U.S. Armed Forces, not only fulfill gendarme functions in various regions of the world but are also the direct agents of aggressive, offensive actions. By their presence and their actions they exacerbate the international situation and present a serious threat to the peace and security of peoples--and it is no imaginary threat but a very real one.

Particularly dangerous are the Pentagon and NATO plans to manufacture about 600 new medium-range missiles and deploy them in Western Europe. They are to be fitted with nuclear warheads and capable of reaching targets deep inside USSR territory. The implementation of these plans will considerably increase the strength of American nuclear forces and, according to NATO strategists, will create an extra "deterrent potential" against the Soviet Union.

The NATO leadership's plans, concealed behind deceitful references to "the North Atlantic alliance's lag behind the Warsaw Pact in many types of weapons," "the growth of the Soviet military threat" and in this connection the need for "arms upgrading" in the interests of the "defense of the West," have provoked much alarm among the European public. The plan to deploy American medium-range missiles with nuclear warheads on the territory of a number of NATO countries is rightly appraised by the progressive public as a qualitatively new and extremely dangerous phenomenon in the aggressive preparations being carried out by the NATO bloc. The execution of these plans will lead to the violation of the military balance on the continent in favor of NATO, undermine the process of detente in Europe and create an unstable situation throughout the world.

This is why the new USSR initiative, advanced by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, in his 6 October speech in Berlin, received such a warm response and high appraisal.

It embraces all the main aspects of military detente in Europe: The reduction of nuclear and conventional arms and confidence-building measures. The implementation of the suggested complex of measures would mean a real strengthening of military security for all European countries and increased confidence in relations between them. The Soviet Union's readiness, in the event of an appropriate positive reaction from the NATO countries, to reduce the number of medium-range nuclear weapons deployed in western regions of the USSR in comparison with the present level, and also the Soviet Union's decision to withdraw from GDR territory up to 20,000 servicemen, 1,000 tanks and a certain quantity of other equipment, have been appraised by the progressive public throughout the world as a vivid expression of a love of peace and of good will on the part of the Soviet Union.

However, the Soviet initiative has not met with a favorable response from the reactionary circles of the NATO imperialist powers. They do not want to renounce their plans for unleashing a new round of the arms race and for further stepping up military preparations, and they intend to confirm the program for deploying hundreds of new medium-range missiles in Western Europe at the December session of the NATO Council. In this regard it is appropriate to cite the words of Marshal of the Soviet Union D.F. Ustinov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR defense minister: "Those who seek military advantages and superiority and indulge in saber-rattling should know that they could get badly burned. If the NATO countries defy common sense and the good will of the socialist countries, and turn Western Europe into a launch pad for American strategic weapons, they will meet with a firm and persuasive response from the other side."

The CPSU and the Soviet state, in conjunction with the socialist community countries, are waging active and purposeful struggle for peace and taking appropriate measures to reliably insure their defense capability. The peoples and armed forces of the socialist community countries give undivided support to this wise policy. Its successes lend them new strength and energy in accomplishing the great tasks of communist building.

APN OBSERVER, RADIO CORRESPONDENTS DENOUNCE NATO MISSILE PLANS

LD271950 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1140 GMT on 27 November, in its series "Topical Problems of International Life," carries an 18-minute discussion program entitled "No to the Pentagon's Dangerous Plans" in connection with today's international day of action against NATO's plans to deploy new nuclear missiles in Europe. Presenter Valentin Osipov invites Spartak Ivanovich Beglov, APN political observer, and various Moscow Radio correspondents around the world to comment on "the struggle by millions of peace champions throughout the world against NATO's sinister plans."

Beglov begins: "The plan of the Pentagon and NATO was hatched as long ago as 1975, when a program for so-called modernization of the Atlantic bloc's arms was drawn up under pressure from militarist circles in the United States. Even then the plans for the new Pershing II missiles and cruise missiles figured among the means of frightening the Soviet Union and the other countries of the Warsaw Pact.. The principle difference in their military technical characteristics is that in comparison with the land-based nuclear weapons previously deployed in the NATO zone the new weapons have two or three times as great a range, that is, they are capable of reaching the territory of the Soviet Union.

"When the content of these plans became known--and as early as the spring of this year the governments and staffs of the NATO countries began to talk openly about them--the West European public began to recognize in full measure the sinister nature of the dangers which they involved. In fact it is not enough that Western Europe is threatened with being turned into a firing range for weapons capable of bringing on the West Europeans a deadly danger; the new twist in the arms race moreover leads to the breakup of the balance of forces which has come about, and consequently undermines the cause of military detente, and equally the hopes of all Europeans for the success of the talks on the reduction of armed forces and arms which have already begun and which are planned for the future.

"Here is an opinion, typical of broad circles in Western Europe, expressed by Waltmans, a deputy from the Dutch Radical Party: If we held a referendum for or against these missiles today, the majority would undoubtedly express themselves negatively. Indeed, the wave of protests which has arisen throughout Western Europe has spoken louder than any referendum. Numerous public organizations, including committees of peace champions, trade unions, and religious figures, have come out with unambiguous condemnation of NATO's dangerous plans. In Belgium there has been a collection of signatures for a petition called: 'No to nuclear missiles on Belgian soil.' The same position has been taken by representatives of the majority of political parties in the Netherlands parliament. The hawks must not be allowed to win the upper hand. Victory should be with those who are in favor of mutual understanding. The mad idea of the arms race does not find support among ordinary people, stated Lattmann, a deputy of the German Social Democratic Party and member of the FRG Bundestag Foreign Affairs Committee."

Osipov then brings in correspondent Yuriy Pospelov in Copenhagen, who reports on the action of the Danish and Norwegian public against the European missile plans.

Beglov then continues: "A different course, directly opposed to the intentions of NATO, the Soviet Union's course, has again been very clearly mapped out at this moment. Its essence was extremely precisely expressed by Comrade Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium in his speech in Berlin. We want peace, stable peace, in Europe as in all other regions of our world, he said. The confirmation of this is the new Soviet initiative. The USSR's readiness to move on to real acts to reduce armed forces and arms in central Europe was expressed on the one hand by such an act of goodwill as the decision to reduce unilaterally the numbers of Soviet forces in that region and to withdraw up to 20,000 Soviet servicemen and 1,000 tanks from the territory of the GDR in the next 12 months, and on the other hand by the Soviet Union's announced readiness to reduce, in comparison with the present level, the quantity of medium-range nuclear weapons deployed in the western regions of the USSR in the event of there being no additional deployment of such weapons in Western Europe.

"The Soviet initiative also envisages new measures to insure trust, and confirms a whole complex of other proposals for detente in the military field put forward previously by the Warsaw Pact countries. The idea of immediate talks is being put forward as a method of implementing these proposals, as Comrade Brezhnev said in reply to a PRAVDA correspondent on 6 November of this year. It was stressed then that during the talks, and especially before they begin, it is important not to undertake hurried actions which could complicate the situation and hinder the achievement of political results.

"The Soviet initiatives show, like litmus paper, the true attitudes of various circles to the fate of peace in Europe. The broad public in Europe and outside it welcome them as a way out of the deadlock into which NATO figures are trying to drive European politics. All people of good will see in them the most rational way to curb the senseless arms race. These proposals contain an appeal to the West to show by deeds its ability to follow the path of military detente, and at the same time this is a program of action for all champions of stable peace in our continent.

"There is every reason to welcome with great joy Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's proposal for talks, stated, for example, Sivertsen, the well-known Norwegian public figure and chairman of the Consultative Governmental Committee on Disarmament and Arms Control. All thinking people, he said, nurture an ardent hope that both sides will hold talks. The Soviet initiative was welcomed by representatives of the governments of Denmark and Italy, essentially all the European countries, even those in the West who did so with the reservation that it is necessary to uphold the solidarity of the Atlantic alliance."

Osipov introduces Vladimir Gerasichev, New York correspondent, who reports briefly on the U.S. public's welcome for Soviet proposal.

Beglov then continues: "Militarist circles which had banked on implementing their plans saw in the Soviet initiative a direct threat to these intentions. The Atlantic arm-twisting machine started working at full speed. Emissaries from the Pentagon and the military-industrial complex have arrived in Western Europe from across the ocean in order to restore order in NATO's ranks and to encourage their partners to accept the plans for production and deployment of the new weapons. It is not surprising if one takes into account moreover, as the French LES ECHOS testifies, that behind these plans there stands a colossal deal to the advantage of the arms manufacturers, which promises them orders to the tune of $406 billion. The leaders of the British Conservative Government have acted in the role of especially zealous advocates of the dangerous plan, and West German Government figures are attuning themselves to their efforts. The flywheel of propaganda about the Soviet military threat is being wound up to the utmost, although the only real threat to NATO's plans from the USSR is our country's determination not to allow a new round of armament and to spare the peoples of Europe from new danger."

Osipov then brings in Valentin Zapevalov, correspondent in Bonn, who reports UNSERE ZEIT's refutation of the West's allegations concerning Soviet military superiority and interviews (Mauker), member of the board of the FRG Committee for Peace, Disarmament and Cooperation on the need to inform the FRG public of the value of the Soviet proposals.

Then Beglov continues: "The United States' pressure on its partners in the Atlantic bloc was manifested with particular force during the meeting of the Nuclear Planning Group in mid-November, where there was preliminary discussion of the draft decisions laid down for the December session of the NATO Council. Nevertheless the absence of enthusiasm and the wavering even in this narrow NATO circle made itself clearly felt, for example, in the position of the Netherlands representative, who tried to convince them of the need for at least a postponement of the decision on deployment of the new missiles on the territory of West European countries.

"Meanwhile statements on the need for careful study of the new Soviet initiatives with the aim of preparing the gound for constructive decisions in favor of military detente have been made by Urho Kekkonen, the president of Finland, Bruno Kreisky, the chancellor of Austria, Willy Brandt, chairman of the West German Social Democratic Party, and many other responsible figures in Western Europe. The Soviet initiatives are unanimously supported by the governments of the countries of the socialist community.

"In an attempt to weaken the response evoked by the Soviet proposals the NATO bosses are using such an insidious method as the slogan: First bring arms up to strength and then disarm. Such an approach cannot be appraised other than as an attempt to present the world with accomplished facts, and to dictate their own conditions from a position of strength, which is openly declared, for example, by the leaders of the British Conservatives and the NATO bosses.

"Disarmament cannot go side-by-side with armament. One might ask: What is the sense in first creating a new type of weapon, spending enormous funds, and then holding talks? The policy of nuclear blackmail in a new edition: That is how such tricks by the advocates of NATO rearmament may be described."

Osipov interrupts: "Yes, Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, USSR foreign minister, covered this in particular when speaking at the press conference in Bonn. He said in particular that the intention of certain NATO governments to hold talks with the Soviet Union from a position of strength smells, so to speak, of political mothballs. This way of posing the question signifies a political precondition and thereby destroys the basis for talks."

Beglov goes on: "Sober-minded Europeans cannot fail to recognize what a great amount of work was put into bringing our continent close to the point where real measures to reduce the inflammable material in our continent have become possible. The question is this: Will this main trend in European politics be preserved, or will things regress? Will agreement between states continue to grow, or will conflict gain the upper hand? At the forums of peace champions and the demonstrations which are continuing to be held throughout our continent in these days only one answer to these questions is ringing out: Yes to talks and no to new nuclear weapons."

Osipov brings in Paris correspondent Vladimir Dmitriyev, who interviews (Roger Binier), a leader of the peace movement and secretary of the WPC in France, on the danger of NATO's plans and the importance of disarmament.

Beglov continues: "The NATO politicians and propagandists are not succeeding in misleading people of goodwill. The innermost aspirations of millions are linked with the strengthening of peace and the deepening of detente. This struggle for the peaceful future of Europe will continue to gather strength in spite of the intrigues of the advocates of nuclear death."

Here Osipov ends the broadcast.

EUROPEAN PUBLIC CALLS FOR IMMEDIATE ARMS TALKS, OPPOSES EUROMISSILES

LD280933 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Nov 79 p 4 LD

[Article by V. Zagladin and V. Shaposhnikov, members of the Soviet delegation at the European Public Forum for Disarmament and Security: "Reason Must Triumph: The Unanimous Will of Europe's Public"]

[Text] The complex of proposals on ways of further strengthening peace in Europe put forward by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev on behalf of the Soviet Union and its allies has attracted tremendous attention from the European Continent's public. These proposals have evoked a response from people representing the broadest sociopolitical and religious currents.

The diversity of the social forces that have responded to the socialist countries' proposals was reflected in generalized, concentrated form in the work of the European public forum for disarmament and security held in Belgium. Delegates from 29 European countries, and also the United States and Canada participated in it. At the forum 133 participants represented the capitalist countries; 67, the socialist countries; and about 50, various international organizations. Communists, Socialists and Social Democrats and Christian Democrats sent emissaries to the forum who included members of the party leaderships and deputies in national and European parliaments. The forum was greeted by L. Waldheim-Natural, director of the UN Center for Disarmament, and P. Vayrynen, personal representative of the chairman of the Socialist International working group on disarmament problems. Vatican official observer (J. Tyefferi) carefully followed the forum's work.

The forum created four commissions, which respectively considered general problems of disarmament, questions of nuclear disarmament, questions of military detente in Europe and the sociopolitical aspects of disarmament. At the same time all the commissions touched on an issue that is causing general concern--the issue of the plans to deploy new American weapons in West Europe. Attention here mainly focused on how to avert the start of a new round in the nuclear arms race on European soil.

Of course, the forum participants did not have identical approaches to the issue under consideration. Certain of them, while agreeing in principle that it is necessary to seek to end the arms race, nevertheless believed that the decision should first be taken in NATO to produce American missiles for West Europe and negotiation on disarmament should be held afterward. However, the overwhelming majority of participants noted the illogicality of the "upgrade armaments first, disarm later" formula, for the history of international relations provides many examples of the fact that, after starting production of any type of weapon, it is very difficult to agree on stopping it. It is much more sensible right from the start to refrain from producing new weapons.

There was much debate and argument at the forum, sometimes animated. But the actual character of the discussion was friendly and constructive. The arguments were conducted not so that people could go off into their "national apartments" after expressing their views, but to establish just what there is in common, despite the well-known differences in views. There proved to be a great deal in common in this way.

The first thing that can above all be highlighted from this viewpoint is that all the speakers spoke of the responsibility of the time and the seriousness of the danger with which the possible new spiral in the arms race is fraught.

It is precisely the realization of that danger and that responsibility which was an exceptionally important feature characteristic of all participants in the debates. We want to stress that this reflects the stance of the European public as a whole--for a similar awareness is characteristic of an absolute majority of participants in the debate on Europe's problems that has now developed in parliaments, at meetings, in the pages of the press, on radio and on television in all countries of our continent.

The second point that manifested itself with complete clarity both at the forum and in the debate that has now developed in the West European countries could perhaps be called a "sense of European comradeship" an increasingly perceptible awareness of the common fate of our continent's peoples in the face of a common danger. Even people who entertain illusions about the policy of the United States and NATO are beginning to understand that the plans the latter are now foisting on West Europe are not prompted by the real state of affairs and run counter to West Europe's vital interests. As is well known, attempts are made to justify these plans by citing the notorious "Soviet threat." But, with the exception of Strauss and people like him (they exist not only in the FRG, but also in other countries), the majority of West Europeans do not believe the myth of the threat from the Soviet Union. They are increasingly aware of the simple truth that the present American plans, if implemented, will create a threat only to them, while the United States, which is actively foisting its missiles on Europeans, will remain an onlooker [v storone], as it were. In effect what we are faced with is an American export of military danger to Europe. This export is essentially not a new phenomenon. Back in the fifties the United States nurtured the idea of waging a war in Europe through the agency of European soldiers using American weapons. At the time this was called the "European defense community." However, the plans for creating it were thwarted. Today the desire is that a nuclear war, if it erupts, should take place on European territory, and the United States would wash its hands of the matter as it watched its allies perish. The question arises: What does all this have to do with Europe's interests? It is this question that citizens of West European states representing the most diverse political currents are now asking increasingly often.

Finally, the third point that found expression clearly enough in the debate both at the forum and outside it is the West Europeans' strengthening desire to find ways and means of insuring real security and not to be the hostages of the militarist plans of the Pentagon and NATO. Many different views were expressed on this issue at the forum. However, its participants were practically unanimous in stressing: The main thing is now to start talks. Almost all the participants agreed that talks must not be impeded by any unilateral actions entailing a new escalation of the arms race.

In his speech at the final session of the forum the Belgian Canon R. Goor, the forum chairman, said: "True security cannot emerge on the basis of the use or threat of force, on the basis of military superiority or a balance of fear. In the nuclear era, the electronic era, negotiation is the key word, the main word for all the peoples, and primarily for the peoples of the countries that signed the Final Act in Helsinki and assumed commitments regarding one another...."

Those are the main ideas expressed at the forum and gradually, but increasingly clearly, being asserted in the course of the debate underway in Europe. Taking into account what has been said, it is not difficult to see why the proposals put forward by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev have evoked such tremendous interest amoung Europeans. In his 6 October speech in Berlin and his answer to a PRAVDA correspondent's question published 6 November the outstanding political leader of our time again displayed a deeply considered, comprehensively thought-out approach toward assessing the prevailing situation and determining possible ways out of it.

The idea of immediately holding talks provided that at the same time no hasty steps capable of worsening the situation are taken encountered the most favorable response. Soviet foreign policy is a policy whose aims and actions accord with the interests of the European peoples in both the West and the East of the continent and the interests of all the world's peoples: That is the conclusion every unbiased person is drawing from the proposals put forward by our country.

The European public has greeted with hope the Soviet leadership's new peace initiative. Here the public by no means intends to occupy the position of an onlooker. Special emphasis should be placed on this, since some people are still displaying definite pessimism about the public's potential. For instance, the question is often asked: The decisions are taken by governments and parliaments--what can social forces do in these conditions? The forum participants gave their answer to this question. Generalizing the experience already accumulated and, in particular, the experience of the struggle against the neutron bomb, they said: The paramount concern of social forces today is to spread the truth both about the essence and danger of the Pentagon and NATO plans and about the content of the Soviet proposals. Many participants in the debate noted that the massive NATO propaganda campaign attempts to totally distort the real state of affairs. There is an attempt to represent the NATO plans, which are plans for the further militarization of Europe, virtually as measures aimed at consolidating peace. At the same time there is an endeavor to reduce the extremely important initiatives by the USSR and its allies to the level of purely propagandist moves. It is here that the public is called on to play its role. Explanation of the real situation to ordinary people is an important task whose resolution, as was said at the forum, is urgent.

Another direction of public action is connected with the maneuvers to which the supporters of the Pentagon and NATO plans are resorting in an attempt to sidestep parliaments and implement the plans. Many participants in the forum from West Europe told of these maneuvers. This situation is intolerable, they stressed. The fates of entire nations must not be decided behind parliaments' backs. The public, in the opinion of the forum participants, must at all costs seek to insure broad debate in parliaments on the whole range of problems of Europe's future.

Another serious question. In his speech at the opening of the forum Mayor of Madrid E. Tierno Galvan expressed the idea that municipal, regional and provincial councils and other local self-government organs can play a great role in the struggle for the peoples' security. It must be said that the potential of local self-government organs is pretty great. At the press conference convened in connection with summing up the forum's results a representative of the Council of the Belgian Province of Hainaut reported that the council of which he is a member has unanimously decided that no missiles must be deployed on the territory under its jurisdiction. As the press subsequently reported, many Belgian communes' elective organs have voiced similar views on the deployment of the new American weapons on their soil.

The representatives of the continent's broadest social, political and religious forces who gathered in Belgium were united in the opinion that the public not only can, but must play a great role in the struggle for a really peaceful future for Europe. It is called on to create a political climate that favors the adoption of correct, considered decisions according with the interests of all the continents, peoples. Above all, the continent's public regards as such, indeed as the only correct decision, the implementation of the idea put forward by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev of immediately starting talks. Soviet public organizations and the entire Soviet people totally support the idea of talks. Like all Europe's peoples, Soviet people await an answer from the Western countries' governments to the proposals that have been made. Reason must triumph. That is not only the demand of the time; that is also the unanimous will of our continent's public.

ARMY PAPER HITS CARTER ORDER TO STOCKPILE NEUTRON BOMB COMPONENTS

LD281113 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 24 Nov 79 p 3 LD

[Maj Yu. Gavrilov article under the rubric "Observer's Notes": "Dangerous Undertaking"]

[Text] The peace-loving public is opposing increasingly actively the NATO circles' course toward undermining detente in Europe. It rightly assesses the present intention of the United States and its partners to secure the deployment of medium-range nuclear missile weapons on the territory of a number of West European countries as an extremely dangerous step to the cause of peace and the peoples' security.

However, to all appearances influential circles across the Atlantic and in NATO are not only reluctant to abandon the idea of pushing through these sinister designs but have not yet even consigned to the archives their criminal plans connected with producing the barbaric neutron weapons.

It is well known that, under pressure from the broad movement in Europe and throughout the world for the banning of the neutron bomb, the United States was forced to defer the question of producing and deploying this dangerous new type of nuclear weapon in Western Europe. But, the press noted, although this weapon was not put into series production and has not filled NATO's West European arsenals, the U.S. authorities nonetheless by no means abandoned production of the "key elements" of the neutron warheads, which are designed for installation on Lance missiles and for use in 8-inch artillery shells.

Moreover, alarming evidence has appeared recently that U.S. ruling circles are hoping to reserve the opportunity to review in the future the question of saturating West European territory with lethal "enhanced radiation weapons." This recent AP report from Washington is striking:

"The White House has stated that President Carter has given orders to stockpile neutron warhead components in order to reduce possible delays if he decides to produce the weapon in its finished form and send it to West Europe" (!).

Using the dubious theses of cold war times, the agency is trying here to justify such a turn of events in advance by using NATO-stoked fabrications about the "Soviet military threat" to West Europe, the alleged need "to halt advancing Soviet tanks" and other fabrications.

Let us leave these "arguments" on the conscience of the agency and of those whose opinion it reflects. But we cannot fail to recall here that the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries and the peace-loving public, including the public of the United States itself, have already indicated unambiguously the danger of plans to produce neutron weapons and deploy them in West Europe and the extremely adverse political and strategic consequences of such designs for the peoples' security. The slogan "The Neutron Bomb Must Be Outlawed!" remains topical today, as does the broad masses' resolute demand not to allow the deployment of new types of U.S. nuclear missile weapons in West Europe.

Political realism dictates that we should not "stockpile components" thwarting the cause of military detente but take steps to turn Europe into a continent of stable peace and to expand mutual confidence-building measures, which the USSR and its allies are persistently urging and toward which the new Soviet peace initiative is aimed.

WARSAW PACT DEFENSE MINISTERS TO MEET IN WARSAW IN DECEMBER

LD262137 Moscow TASS in English 2129 GMT 26 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, November 27, TASS--In December 1979, a regular meeting of the Committee of Defence Ministers of states-members of the Warsaw Treaty will be held in the city of Warsaw, capital of the Polish People's Republic. The meeting is to discuss questions pertaining to the current activities of the military organs of the organization of the Warsaw Treaty.

TASKS OF WARSAW PACT MINISTERIAL MEETING IN BERLIN DISCUSSED

LD271942 Moscow World Service in English 1300 GMT 27 Nov 79 LD

[Text] It has been officially announced that a meeting of the Foreign Ministers' Committee of the Warsaw Treaty Organization is due to be held in Berlin early next month. More from our commentator Yuriy Shalygin:

I'd like to remind our listeners, he writes, that the Warsaw Treaty Organization is a political and defense alliance of seven socialist countries--Bulgaria, Hungary, the German Democratic Republic, Poland, Romania, the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia. The Foreign Ministers' Committee is one of the working bodies of this organization. It was set up in 1976 for the purpose of perfecting further the mechanism of political cooperation inside the organization.

The forthcoming Berlin meeting will be the fourth in succession. Before, the committee met in Moscow, Sofia and Budapest. With all the variety of items discussed the meetings had one common feature: the desire of the socialist community countries to consolidate the relaxation process, making it irreversible, and the easing of political tensions supplemented with the easing of military tensions. This desire of the Warsaw Treaty countries is not a mere declaration. It is backed up by a concrete and clearcut initiatives, the latest of which was the Budapest meeting of the Foreign Ministers' Committee held last spring. It outlined a complex of measures to lessen the military confrontation and build up confidence on the European Continent. The Budapest meeting proposed that a conference be convened at the political level of all the European countries, the United States and Canada, to discuss a relaxation of military tension. In short this would be a meeting of the countries that took part in the European security conference in Helsinki. These countries were offered in Budapest to sign an agreement which would commit them not to be the first to use either nuclear or conventional weapons. In the opinion of the Warsaw Treaty countries an agreement would safeguard the European Continent against new military conflicts. Moreover this agreement, a kind of collective nonaggression pact, would help prop up the political and legal foundation for the observance of the principle of the renunciation of the use of force or the threat of force. This principle has an over-riding importance for the entire world. You may now see for yourself what the NATO circles and Western propaganda are driving at when they talk about the allegedly dangerous intentions of the Warsaw Treaty Organization. The purpose of such talk is to distort the organization's policy, avoid its proposals and justify plans to aggravate the situation and step up the arms race.

As for the countries of the socialist community they all treat the task of easing tensions in the military field with a good measure of responsibility. The Warsaw Treaty, signed nearly 25 years ago, already registered the readiness of its signatories to employ effective measures to bring about a general reduction in arms. This readiness was manifest in many concrete moves. The latest are the new peace proposals made by Leonid Brezhnev in Berlin recently and widely supported by the socialist community countries.

U.S., IRANIAN POSITIONS ON UN SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE NOTED

LD272025 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1745 GMT 27 Nov 79 LD

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Gennadiy Ariyevich and Vadim Volkov]

[Text] In New York in a few hours a session of the UN Security Council will be held to debate the state of U.S.-Iranian relations. The Security Council is meeting at the initiative of Kurt Waldheim, UN secretary general. As reported by REUTER, during the Security Council session an effort will be made to reach agreement on two basic questions of the U.S.-Iranian crisis--the freeing of the hostages in Tehran and the establishment of an international commission to examine the shah's violations of human rights and the export outside the country of the property of the Iranian people. Let us recall that the overthrown shah sent about $25 billion out of the country. During the time he was in power tens of thousands of Iranians were tortured in the torture chambers of the SAVAK secret police.

What is the position of the United States and Iran before the Security Council session? Washington, as the White House press secretary announced, agrees to discuss only the question of the freeing of the staff of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran who are being held hostage by Iranian students seeking the handing over of the former shah. The Iranians, for their part, consider that the Security Council should concern itself with the United States' military threats directed against Iran, and should examine the underlying causes of the present situation, including the United States' role in support of the shah during the entire period of his rule. The Iranian Government is trying to put the shah and other leaders of the regime on trial to receive punishment for the crimes committed against the peoples.

I should like to note that, as reports indicate, the United States still has not excluded the possibility of military intervention. President Carter, U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT reports, has for the first time since he became President given the order for the U.S. Armed Forces to prepare for action in a crisis situation. U.S. Marines have been ordered to take up positions for possible actions against Iran. By the end of November two operation units led by aircraft carriers should approach the shores of Iran. This group includes ships of the 7th Fleet, headed by the aircraft carrier Kitty Hawk, which has on board aircraft and 5,000 marines. Landing helicopters and a special infantry unit are also preparing for military operations. Among the possible variants of military attack on Iran, foreign information agencies cite bombardment of Iranian oil industries and oil-loading points, bombardment of Qom, where Ayatollah Khomeyni's residence is, and a naval blockade of Iran.

In connection with movement of U.S. aircraft carriers towards the Persian Gulf, along the southern coast of Iran, defensive operations by the country's navy under the command of Vice Admiral Madani have begun.

IRANIAN UN MISSION ISSUES STATEMENT ON U.S. THREATS

LD271802 Moscow TASS in English 1741 GMT 27 Nov 79 LD

[Text] New York, November 27, TASS--The Permanent Mission of Iran at the United Nations issued a statement which says that the threats by the United States and the propaganda campaign, which the USA conducts, have created a dangerous atmosphere in the region and in the whole world.

We hold, the statement points out, that the UN Security Council should examine those threats. It should consider the causes underlying the present situation. In 1953 the USA had staged a coup in Iran, overthrowing the legitimate government and imposing the shah on the Iranian people. Since then the U.S. Embassy in Tehran and its puppet--the shah--had converted our country into a colossal prison where rule was exercised through tortures and killings.

After 25 years of repressions and embezzlement of the people's property, the statement points out next, the regime which had been imposed on the country was overthrown.

For the purpose of avoiding a punishment the head of the regime--the shah is now seeking asylum in the USA. The wealth stolen from the people was brought to that country, and to other Western countries as well. Fully disregarding the principles of justice and international rights, and in spite of Iran's repeated warnings, the U.S. Government gave refuge to the criminals, and is now replying with military threats to our people's just demands. We want the shah and other leaders of the regime to be put on trial and bear the penalty. We want the return of the riches stolen by the criminals from our people, the statement stresses.

UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim in an interview with the ABC television company said that during the UN Security Council meeting, an attempt will be made to reach agreement on two main questions of the U.S.-Iranian crisis--the release of the hostages and the setting up of an international commission for inquiry into violations of human rights by the shah and into questions connected with the exportation of the property of the people of Iran out of the country by him.

UN POSTPONES DEBATE ON U.S.-IRANIAN RELATIONS UNTIL 1 DEC

LD280956 Moscow TASS in English 0830 GMT 28 Nov 79 LD

[Text] New York, November 28 TASS--TASS correspondent Valentin Vasilets reports:

The U.N. Security Council began discussing the situation that has developed in relations between the United States and Iran. The convocation of the council was requested by the U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim. In his letter he pointed out that the international community feels a growing concern in connection with the fact that the dangerous level of tension in relations between the two countries is threatening peace and stability in the region and may have serious consequences for the whole world. Kurt Waldheim pointed out that the U.S. Government is deeply concerned over the seizure of its embassy in Tehran and the holding of the diplomatic personnel in breach of appropriate international conventions. The Government of Iran, he continued, is seeking satisfaction for the injustice and human rights' violations which, in its view, had been practised by the former regime.

Speaking at the U.N. Security Council's meeting, Kurt Waldheim again emphasized that the tension in relations between the two countries is threatening the security of the region.

The President of the U.N. Security Council Palicios de Vizzio (Bolivia), recalled his statement date November 9 in which he on behalf of the Council members called for the release of the diplomatic personnel of the U.S. Embassy in Iran, and reaffirmed the call.

In view of the serious threat to peace and security, he stated further, the U.N. Security Council will make persistent efforts with a view to finding a peaceful solution to the problem in accordance with the principles of justice and international law.

The Permanent Mission of Iran at the United Nations sent a letter to the president of the U.N. Security Council with a request for postponement of the discussion at the U.N. Security Council of this item on the agenda, in view of the events of great political and religious importance taking place in Iran, so that the head of the Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs could take part in the Council's work. The president of the Security Council said the council members agreed to comply with the request and to continue work on Saturday, December 1.

ZAGLADIN DISCUSSES IRAN, RELIGION, DISARMAMENT

ID281415 Paris LE MONDE in French 28 Nov 79 p 5 ID

[Andre Fontaine interview with CPSU Central Committee International Department Deputy Chief Vadim Zagladin during his "recent" (date not specified) visit to Paris: "The Iranian People Have the Right To Judge the Shah"]

[Text] [Question] Mr Zagladin, what is the purpose of your visit to France?

[Answer] I have been invited by our ambassador to discuss questions relating to the embassy and, at the same time, I have met with my communist friends and other leading French figures to continue the discussions which we started in Moscow.

[Question] You mention your communist friends: People in France were recently struck by the position they adopted when there were attacks on certain politicians, even the president of the republic. Do you approve of that position?

[Answer] Those are internal French affairs and I do not want to interfere....

[Question] The main question worrying the French people and many other people in the world today is obviously what is happening in the region of the Persian Gulf. Do you think there is a danger of war?

[Answer] I do not know whether such a danger exists. However, I would like to make two or three remarks: First, I think that what is happening in Iran and the neighboring countries is only one part of that possible danger because whether this danger can really become a reality depends on the results of actions taken by other states which want to intervene in the internal affairs of Muslim countries and even resort to military force.

Furthermore, to be even more specific, I must say that, generally speaking, events in the Muslim world are entirely just in my view; these changes could have been foreseen long ago. The whole world is changing. This region is economically, socially and even politically backward and things are now beginning to happen. There are a great deal of internal problems but there are also external problems which prevent these internal problems from being solved, hence this fairly brutal confrontation with external forces. This confrontation should be avoided and all these problems solved calmly on the basis of international law, even if you do not approve of some of the methods used by certain elements in these countries.

"We Must Understand the Iranian People"

[Question] You have just mentioned internal events. Do you not think that seizing hostages in an embassy with the government's backing is a violation of international law?

[Answer] There is the question of the shah who was the country's leader and who did the people a great deal of harm. There is now a movement to put him on trial--the people want to judge him and that is their right. It is not merely a symbolic gesture. For the Iranian people, trying the shah means drawing a line between the past and the future. If he is not judged it means that there is still a danger of a tyrannical regime being restored. The people want to move forward. Any negative response to that wish will bring a counter response.

[Question] If the present Iranian Government were to obtain satisfaction, in other words if the Americans were to hand over the shah thanks to the use of a method which is absolutely contrary to international law, would we not see the seizure of diplomatic hostages being used throughout the world to try and force the extradition of people allegedly wanted for trial?

[Answer] That is true. However, I do not believe that could happen. Furthermore, surely dispatching a fleet of jet aircraft--100 or more--is likely to set a dangerous precedent?

[Question] Do you think that if the United States were to use this violation of international law as a reason for military intervention in Iran the USSR would also feel justified in involving the 1921 treaty as a reason for military intervention in Iran?

[Answer] We must first do everything possible to avoid such an eventuality. As far as we are concerned, we always base our actions on international law, acting in such a way as to try and help solve the conflict by legal methods and avoid the danger of war.

[Question] Do you regard the case of the Afghanistan rebels and that of the people in power in Iran as completely different?

[Answer] Yes, completely different.

[Question] Nonetheless at one point you accused the Iranian Government and the Pakistani Government of supporting the rebels?

[Answer] Islam, the Muslim religion, exists as the main religion of Afghanistan and not the religion of just part of its population. The present Afghan Government is not opposed to that religion. On the contrary, it supports it and has good relations with the Afghan leaders of the Islamic church. In particular it has set up new mosques.

[Question] Was that also true in the early days of the Taraki government? Were there not antireligious factions?

[Answer] It was true then and is true today. However, let us come back to your question. Among the rebels there are people who follow the Muslim religion and even some mullahs, that is true. Therefore, viewed from outside, there is almost a paradoxical situation--part of the Muslim population fighting other Muslims. The reasons are not religious, although people say that they are defending Islam. Islam is defended by the government. However, the revolution has liquidated the property of the big landowners, removing social inequality and hence some priviledges enjoyed by a section of the population--and those Afghans have reacted. That is the root of the problem. In addition to that, as in all parts of the world, there are outside forces, especially in Pakistan, which have always tried to rouse the people against the government because the government opposes exploitation and is friendly with the Soviet Union.

[Question] At present people in the West are very surprised by this resurgence of Islam which is occurring in many places. Do you as the advocate of a materialist philosophy think that you have underestimated the influence of the religious factor in the past?

[Answer] I do not think so. However, I think we should extend the question. We are indeed materialists since we are communists but we also have people of various religions in our country who are not materialists.

"Freedom of Religion Exists in Our Country"

[Question] Perhaps, but you do not encourage their religion to say the least!

[Answer] What do you mean by encourage or not encourage? There is religious freedom in our country. Religion exists and is developing. We do not prevent Muslims or Orthodox Christians from going to church for instance....

[Question] But, for instance, can somebody be a practicing Christian and a party official at the same time?

[Answer] In the party, in our party, that is practically impossible.

[Question] What about a practicing Muslim?

[Answer] No, the same applies. There are no religious people in our party. However, that is not new and does not prevent those people from exercising responsibilities within the state. The people who join the CPSU are people who also support a philosophy and an ideological line at the same time. However, following a different ideology does not prevent people from having responsibilities in the state.

[Question] When you speak of responsibilities in the state, you do not envisage a minister, even in one of the republics, practicing a religion?

[Answer] It is possible, but ministers are not chosen for their party membership or their religious beliefs. They are chosen for their ability.

[Question] Can there be ministers in the republics who are not party members?

[Answer] There are such ministers, indeed quite a few.

[Question] What about the government of the Soviet Union?

[Answer] I am not sure, but you do not have to be a communist to become a minister. In any case many deputies in the Supreme Soviet are not communists.

To return to Islam, it is true that there is an "Islamic upsurge" at the moment.

We hope to study this movement in greater detail not only ourselves but also with the help of scholars and Muslims in other countries. We exchange delegations fairly regularly with Muslims from other countries. It is interesting and gives good results. We celebrated the anniversary of the Koran in our country as in the whole Muslim world.

The causes and roots of this resurgence of Islam must be studied and we do not think the roots are purely religious in this case. The roots have more of a social character. Moreover, Islam is probably the most social of religions. The present Muslim resurgence is the expression of a desire to change a situation. In Iran especially the Muslims were the main force, I do not say the only force but the main force, in the struggle against the shah's regime for these economic and social changes and to enable the country to progress.

[Question] The problem of the unequal distribution of raw materials and energy seems to be playing a major role in international tensions. If there was an attempt on a world scale to establish cooperation between producers and consumers on a plan to share and use all these resources, would the Soviet Union regard such an effort as worthy of its interest?

[Answer] You speak of "distribution." But there can be no equal distribution since nature has distributed these resources.....

[Question] I mean distribution of the use of resources and of investments....

[Answer] It is certainly a major problem but one which can be solved. We believe and are convinced that it can be solved. However, we must change the present economic world and organize a new economic system. That means a system based on equality. At the moment that seems to be a very difficult task.

As far as we are concerned, our relations with the African or Asian countries are already based on that principle. Moreover, we have never had any other kind of relationship with those countries. Our relations with them date from after our Revolution and even after the war, since before the war we did not really have any relations with third-world countries. After the war when they became independent states we immediately established relations on a basis of equality. Therefore, for us this problem does not arise.

[Question] However, there is a problem in their trade in general. The amount of aid they receive whether from you or from us is not adequate to enable them to exploit their resources normally.

[Answer] That is true and it already poses the problem of disarmament.... However, there is also a qualitative difference in this aid; it depends of course on the countries. The Western countries do not all act in the same way. However, in principle a large part of the aid given by the Western countries later leaves the country again in the form of the profits of multinational firms and in other forms.

[Question] This aid is extensive compared with yours but not extensive compared with the needs, since this aid is completely inadequate. Virtually no country has achieved the objective of 0.7 percent of the national product which was set by the United Nations.

[Answer] While our aid is less extensive than that provided by the Western countries we do not export profits from those countries and do not practice investmet with percentages. We only do things which are necessary for the countries and especially give aid which helps them to establish technology or master modern Soviet technology or train cadres.

We then help them develop their raw material industries and processing industries.

[Question] Do you think that if the fantastic amounts of money being spent on armaments by both sides were to be appreciably reduced, those amounts could be transferred to development aid?

[Answer] We, for our part, are prepared to do so.

[Question] Measure for measure? In other words, if you were to save $1 billion you would be prepared to invest it in development?

[Answer] In one of its proposals the Soviet Government spoke of a fairly high percentage of the money made available by disarmament being used to increase aid to countries which need it.

[Question] In your view, what are the chances of taking new steps in arms reduction now?

[Answer] First, we must not increase arms. I think there could be a threefold formula: First, stop; then negotiate and finally reduce.

Arms Parity

[Question] However, the SALT II agreement which you have reached with the United States is an agreement which blocks quantitative increase in arms but not qualitative increases?

[Answer] On that question we have reached agreement with the U. S. Government on proceeding to negotiations within the framework of SALT III. Our common aim is to reduce our strategic arms quantitatively and qualitatively.

[Question] Does qualitative reduction mean there could be, for instance, a considerable reduction in arms research budgets?

[Answer] That is a subject of discussion with the Americans.

[Question] Is some control possible?

[Answer] I think so, but I must repeat that this is the subject of preliminary negotiations and it is difficult for me to say now what the outcome will be. Especially since it does not depend just on us.

[Question] If the Americans obtain the agreement of their Atlantic pact allies--and it seems that they will--on the installation of weapons in Europe, do you think that will jeopardize the SALT III negotiations?

[Answer] It creates enormous problems. There is a problem here. Why do it? Why install all those weapons? People talk of an imbalance and say we have violated the existing balance. That is absolutely untrue. I can speak on the basis of facts. I can tell you with full responsibility that if we have carried out some modernization of our armed forces recently, as the West has done, we have always taken account of the fact that parity is one of the bases of detente.

[Question] Nuclear parity?

[Answer] There is overall parity--that is, parity which takes everything into account. All types of arms.

[Question] You have more guns, more tanks and more aircraft. This is undeniable.

[Answer] Look here, an overall parity does exist. Since the structure of the two sides' armed forces is different it is impossible to calculate on a tank-for-tank and gun-for-gun basis.

There is an overall parity and this has been recognized from the strategic viewpoint in our agreements with the Americans and from the viewpoint of the Warsaw Pact and NATO in statements made by very highly placed personalities. One of the most recent of these was made by NATO Secretary General Luns who said 21 October 1979 that a balance of forces exists in Europe. It is true that it is sometimes said in the West that this parity could be violated in the mid-1980's, but if you are afraid of this then why not agree to discuss the matter with us? This was proposed to the Americans during the SALT I and SALT II talks.

This has also been proposed on other occasions, but the answer has always been negative. Now Mr Brezhnev was again posed very clearly the issue of negotiations. We have proceeded from the fact that parity does exist and that it must not be violated and we agree that the ceiling of the present military confrontation should be lowered. Not only do we agree with this but real steps have been taken in this direction--I am referring to our decision to reduce our forces in the GDR. I am also referring to our proposal to unilaterally reduce the number of our medium-range missiles in the country's European part provided that the new American missiles are not deployed in West Europe. However, there is nothing static about this--it has been proposed to engage immediately in discussions with a view to further real reductions on the basis of an agreement. I can assure you that if there are no American forward-based system forces in Europe we will have no need at all for medium-range missiles.

[Question] In the light of all this, how do you assess the French Government's attitude?

[Answer] We deem it an important and positive fact that the French Government has started to participate in negotiations on disarmament problems in general. President Giscard d'Estaing's trip to America to attend the UN special session was also a very important event. You can either support or dispute his proposals, but the fact in itself is very positive and instructive. Furthermore, France has made certain concrete proposals, especially with respect to a European disarmament conference. Some of the points involved are open to discussion, but we agree on certain other points, including those relating to questions of trust and so forth. So the discussion should be continued and we are ready for this. In any case, our Warsaw Pact proposal to organize a European conference on confidence-building measures has shown that some convergences already exist. I believe that, taking its special position into account, as [Foreign Minister] Francois-Poncet stated, France should play a very positive role in the process of any negotiations with respect to disarmament and security in Europe.

'CRISIS TEAM' CONTINUES TO MEET AT WHITE HOUSE ON IRAN

ID271101 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Nov 79 p 5 ID

[TASS reports: "Around Events in Iran"]

[Excerpts] Washington, 23 November--Meetings of the so-called "Crisis Team," created to discuss the situation in Iran are being held daily in the White House. After a meeting with a group of diplomatic and military advisers today at the President's retreat at Camp David, J. Carter issued a warning that the "consequences of any of the hostages being harmed will be extremely serious." "It is important that no one gets the wrong impression from this fact," says a White House statement read out on the President's behalf by his representative.

The American press continues to discuss the various alternatives of military action which could be undertaken against Iran. According to the Washington POST the Pentagon's plans envisage the bombing of Iranian targets, Kharq Island in the Persian Gulf, from where Iranian oil is dispatched, and air bases.

According to press reports the U.S. aircraft carrier Coral Sea and a group of accompanying ships have been urgently dispatched to the western Pacific.

The New York DAILY NEWS has carried an article containing unconcealed threats to begin military actions against Iran. "The time has come for the U.S. administration to demonstrate firmness," the newspaper states, continuing: "There is now hope that when the aircraft carrier Kitty Hawk comes within striking distance, Iran will be sent a cable: The administration demands the hostages alive or the Ayatollah will be dead."

Paris, 23 November--Reporting the transfer of U.S. aircraft carriers, the newspaper L'AURORE headlines that J. Carter has virtually issued an ultimatum to the Iranians and "given them 8 days to think it over" (the time needed for the arrival of the aircraft carrier Kitty Hawk which has set out from the Philippines for the shores of Iran).

WEEKLY CITED ON U.S. PREPARATION FOR 'DECISIVE CLASH' WITH IRAN

ID271750 Moscow TASS in English 1710 GMT 27 Nov 79 ID

[Text] Washington, November 27, TASS--The White House press secretary announced again that it is only the question of hostages that the United States is prepared to discuss. Spokesman for the State Department said that the United States instructed its embassies in about ten Islamic countries to evacuate diplomats and members of their families whose stay in those countries is not a necessity and also to evacuate businessmen. According to the Washington POST, the spokesman of the State Department said that this will facilitate the administration's task of taking vigorous measures against Iran with the minimum risk of wholesale retaliation against Americans in other countries.

The weekly U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT threatens that the United States is preparing for a decisive clash with Iran. The weekly stresses that President Carter for the first time since he had assumed the post issued an order to the U.S. Armed Forces to get alerted for actions in a crisis situation. U.S. naval units were ordered to assume positions for possible operations against Iran.

By the end of November two task forces headed by aircraft carriers from which 150 war planes can take off on missions are to approach Iran to a distance of striking a blow, the weekly writes. Assault helicopters and a special infantry force are being readied for operations. Among possible versions of a military strike on Iran, the weekly mentions bombing Iranian oil fields and points where oil is shipped, a bombing strike on the town of Qom where Ayatollah Khomeyni's residence is situated, blockade of Iran from the sea.

It follows from information in the U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT that Washington is using the hullaballoo it has raised about the U.S.-Iranian conflict as a pretext for increasing the U.S. military presence in the Middle East even when the crisis ends. The weekly stresses that the United States intends to increase the number of warships sailing constantly in the area of the Arabian Sea and to get a number of military bases in the territory of countries of the region.

WAR INDUSTRY PROFITING BY IRANIAN-U.S. CRISIS

NC271950 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1100 GMT 27 Nov 79 NC

[Text] The military industrial complex in the United States is attempting to warm its hands over the fire of the crisis in Iranian-U.S. relations and to actively support the Pentagon's (statements) on a possible military intervention in Iran's affairs. According to the San Francisco EXAMINER, it is not accidental that the price of shares in war industry corporations rose following the announcement regarding talks on the possibility of such intervention against Iran. Last week, the price of shares of the largest arms suppliers to the Pentagon like General Dynamics, Northrop, McDonnell Douglas and Lytton rose on the stock exchange, which once again shows the inclination of these types of firms to aggravate international conflicts and follow policies that create (war among societies).

GUDKOV REVIEWS U.S. SUPPORT FOR SHAH

AU271435 Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA no 48 in Russian 23 Nov 79 pp 8,9 AU

[Yu. Gudkov New York dispatch: "U.S.A.--Iran: What Are They Staking on?"]

[Text] New York, 19 November--Operation "Ajax" was dreamed up at the headquarters of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company 9 months after its property in Iran was nationalized. However, taking into account the instability of its positions, London decided to have recourse to the assistance of its transatlantic partner. The British Foreign Office acquainted Washington with the plan of operations in November 1952 and encountered enthusiastic support. True, it was decided to wait for a few months: in the United States the presidential elections had just taken place, and the Truman administration had been replaced by the Eisenhower "team." In February 1953, immediately after the new government came into office, the British mission again arrived in Washington where it met with Allen Dulles, who had been appointed director of CIA; Secretary of State Foster Dulles; and Bedell Smith, former CIA director, who had received the post of deputy secretary of state in the new administration.

After a series of consultations the decision was adopted to carry out the "Ajax" operation. At the suggestion of the English, Kermit Roosevelt, CIA collaborator who had visited Iran several times, was appointed its direct executor. K. Roosevelt is President Theodore Roosevelt's grandson, and it not to be excluded that this blood relationship was taken into consideration when one considers the important and secret nature of the operation: the issue was to overthrow the Mossadeq government.

On 25 June Dulles, the secretary of state, finally confirmed the plan of operations. Under the alias James Lockridge, Roosevelt flew to the Near East. "Lockridge's" first meeting with the shah took place in the palace where the shah was living in exile. Washington's emissary informed him that both his own plenary powers and the agreement of the governments of the United States and England to the "Ajax" operation would be confirmed by Eisenhower and Churchill. This was effected the very next day. In a speech in San Franciso, Eisenhower included a sentence agreed on in advance. On Churchill's instructions, the BBC radio announcer stated "it is now exactly midnight," instead of the usual "it is now midnight."

The operation started late in the evening of 15 August. Tanks under the command of Colonel Nasiri, the chief of the Palace Guard and future head of SAVAK, drove out into the streets of Tehran. The government succeeded in rebuffing the first onslaught, Nasiri was arrested, and the future Prime Minister Zahedi had to conceal himself in the apartment of Fred Zimmerman, CIA collaborator. The shah fled to Rome. However, the "shah's followers," and above all the army officers and the police bought with American money, were able to prevail in the end. The "Ajax" operation, carried out on the territory of a sovereign state against a legitimate government, was concluded.

These details are revealed in Kermit Roosevelt's book "Counter-Putsch: The Fight for Control Over Iran." But as soon as the book appeared on the counters of Washington bookshops, in the first days of November, it was immediately withdrawn from the market. The fact is that this book, intended to sing the praises of the CIA's role in "defending American interests," appeared at the most unsuitable time. Today, Washington is less than ever inclined to recall the secret operations of "cloak-and-dagger knights." It is now appealing for "justice," for "humaneness" and a scrupulous adherence to legality. All this is, understandably, connected now with the events in that very same Iran, where the spontaneous mass movement against the shah and his protectors has disregarded [ne poschitalos s] international law and diplomatic immunity. But when one knows the history leading up to these events, one does not feel the need to share Washington's "just anger."

As is known, the 1953 events, recorded by K. Roosevelt with such unconcealed pleasure, commenced the broad American interference. For Iran it meant an unbearable burden of military expenditures, a sharply increasing class stratification, bloody excesses by the secret police and a subordination to foreign, above all American, interests both in foreign policy, and in the economy; this finally led to an explosion. The shah has fled the country, but at least two questions remain unanswered: Do his protectors of many years not intend to repeat the experiment of 1953, and bring the monarch to power again? Who will pay for the crimes perpetrated against the Iranian people?

At the beginning of this year the United States refused to grant political asylum to the shah. All the same, 6 months later he appeared on American territory. Why? For humane reasons, the official representatives say.

The shah "suddenly" arrived in a New York hospital--the Cornell Medical Center on 68th Street in Manhattan--on 22 October, late at night. The first statements by the physicians in charge of his treatment were frightening: The patient is in an almost hopeless condition--a carcinogenic disease. [paragraph continues]

That is why the announcement that surgery is required for stones in his gall bladder was rather unexpected. "I was astonished," wrote Earl Caldwell in the New York DAILY NEWS, "how many people did not believe all this. They did not believe that the shah had cancer and they thought all this had been fabricated in order to get him into the country. . . But if the explanation was not believed here, in New York, then it naturally could not have been believed in Tehran. Tehran did not believe it." This was written by an American who is not indifferent to the fate of his compatriots, either, and who is acting in support of the implementation of international norms.

At first the physicians out down the time necessary for the shah's stay in New York from 18 months to 3 months, then even to a few weeks.

A physician from the Cornell Medical Center who, for understandable reasons, has refused to give his name, stated: " I assume that, for political reasons, it was important to make the shah seem to be dying, but this is not so. When he came here, he was suffering from gall stones. He also has a lymphoma [limfoma]. He has had it for the past 6 or 7 years. It did not prevent him from skiing or from managing the state, and he is not suffering from it now, either. He is truly holding court in his chambers in the hospital."

Other circumstances, preceding the shah's arrival in New York, are just as astonishing. On 23 April the Iranian Government warned: The granting of political asylum to the shah by the United States would be regarded as an "unfriendly act." It seemed that Washington had taken this warning into consideration, too. Now it is becoming obvious that preparations for the shah's arrival had continued; it was just that they were not official, but "along private lines." A kind of three-man committee was set up, consisting of David Rockefeller, chairman of the Chase Manhattan Bank; former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger; and John MacCloy, prominent New York attorney and political figure. This "trio" not only organized a propaganda campaign in favor of the shah's arrival, it was also energetically active in Washington. One of the documents seized by Iranian students in the American Embassy states: ". . . We must prepare the Iranians by notifying them of the strengthening pressure in favor of the shah's arrival here (in the United States)."

Were the possible consequences of this step known? Undoubtedly they were. As the New York TIMES announces, at one of the White House conferences the President asked his aides: "What will you advise me to do when the Iranians take our people in Tehran hostage?"

Nevertheless the "three-man committee" has achieved what it wanted--at least that is the official version.

Rockefeller's interference is not hard to understand. After the revolution Chase Manhattan lost part of its shares in the Iran-Chase International Bank in Tehran; large deposits of the National Iranian Oil Company were transferred to other banks; and Rockefeller's interests in agricultural "business" and in Iran's construction sphere are being threatened. A considerable part of the riches taken by the shah out of the country are kept at Chase Manhattan. Today they are estimated at $15-20 billion, to say nothing of oil interests.

After taking all these stimulating motives and the weight of the Rockefeller family in America into account, one can believe that the pressure exerted on the White House was considerable.

However, the actions of the government itself suggest the idea that the activity of "private persons" seemed advantageous to it when official steps became impossible. As James Bill, professor at the University of Texas, said in this context: "They (Iranians) repeatedly warned us about the shah. Nevertheless we have done nothing to dispel their misgivings about relations between the shah and the present administration leading to a plot for his return. They cannot forget the CIA plot that led to Mossadeq's exile in 1953 and the shah's return to the throne."

Every day Washington's resoluteness increases. It is refusing to have anything to do with a military intervention, and for quite obvious reasons. But the war [voyennyy] psychosis is quite evident. American and English vessels have begun maneuvers near Iran's southern shores. At the same time exercises of paratroop landing assault detachments are being held at Fort Hood, Texas. "One must feel the U.S. presence in the Persian Gulf area and in other areas," the New York TIMES commentator William Safire insists, and Joseph Kraft of the Washington POST demands that one immediately "restore the ability for covert intervention." NEWSWEEK declares in its latest issue: "The siege (of the embassy) in Tehran can still become a turning point. Certain people in the government are already saying that the United States should reassess its position in the world and adopt a firmer stance. If this is true, then Iran will become the first target."

The President has already ordered the deportation of Iranian students studying in the United States, for violating passport [pasportnyy] conditions. Purchases of Iranian crude oil have been stopped. Washington has turned to its allies with the demand not to increase crude oil imports from Iran, so that the American "share" remains unsold. Iranian deposits in American banks have been frozen. Now one hears demands to stop the deliveries of agricultural produce to Iran. The economic war is on. It is hard to believe that such a position has been prompted, solely and exclusively, by concern for the fate of human beings. Senator Fulbright has called this the "arrogance of power." But perhaps a stake on strength is exactly what is today included in the arsenal of Washington's anti-Iranian campaign.

SOLOMENTSEV RECEIVES DELEGATION OF GOVERNORS

LD261154 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1136 GMT 26 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, 26 November, TASS--Mikhail Solomentsev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Russian Federation, received today a delegation of U.S. governors led by Robert Ray, governor of Iowa.

During the talks questions concerning traditional relations between leading staff of the soviet organs in the republics, krays and oblasts and the U.S. governors were touched upon. There was also an exchange of views on a number of topical problems of mutual interest.

VARIATIONS TO ALEXANDER MIDEAST VISIT, CIA ACTIVITIES

Comparison of the item entitled "Alexander To Visit Middle East; CIA Financial Activities Cited" published in the 20 November Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page A 3 with the TASS reports published under the headline "Around Events in Iran" by Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 November 1979 Morning Edition on page 4 reveals the following variations:

Paragraph two, antepenultimate line, IZVESTIYA omits the last sentence;

Paragraph three, line three, IZVESTIYA reads...force against Iran.;

"For the U.S. administration," the New York DAILY NEWS writes, "the time has come to show firmness. There is now the hope that when the aircraft carrier Kitty Hawk gets near enough to deliver a strike, a telegram will be sent to Iran. The government demands the hostages alive, or the ayatollah (that is, the Ahatollah Khomeyni--TASS note) will be a dead man." The New York DAILY NEWS urges the administration to follow the example of former U.S. President T. Roosevelt when at the beginning of the century he sent warships to the Tangiers area and, after issuing a sharp ultimatum, secured by force the release of an arrested American businessman. This incident was the start of the "big stick" policy.;

IZVESTIYA moves paragraph six, minus dateline, to between paragraphs one and two on page A 4 and transfers Paris dateline to the beginning of paragraph seven on page A 3;

IZVESTIYA publishes the following passages in boldface: page A 3, paragraph three, lines one through three...observers note that...through...force against Iran...; paragraph six, lines one through three...a LE MATIN...through...operations against Iran...; page A 4, paragraph three, lines one and two...the magazine AFRIQUE-ASIE...through...in Western Europe...; page A 4, paragraph 4, line one...the CIA, the...through paragraph five, line three...interference in Iran...;

IZVESTIYA encloses the following passages in quotation marks: page A 3, paragraph four, line two...J. Carter continues...through the end of the paragraph; paragraph five, lines one and two...concentrating on possible retaliatory strikes against Iran....; page A 4, paragraph one, lines one and two,...espionage activities of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran....

KORNILOV REJOINER: PRC STANCE ON IRAN NO SURPRISE

LD271550 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1207 GMT 27 Nov 79 LD

["Rejoinder: Shifting the lame"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, November 27,TASS--TASS political observer Yuriy Kornilov writes:

It is well known that Beijing propaganda is prepared to make use of any pretext in order for the umpteenth time to cast aspersions on the policy of the USSR, to ascribe to it "intrigues" against other countries, invented in Beijing itself.

A RENMIN RIBAO article devoted to the Iranian-American conflict can serve fresh confirmation of this. Writing about this conflict the mouthpiece of Beijing propaganda put the emphasis not so much on the essence and the causes of the events as on assertions that allegedly the USSR and Soviet mass information media are trying to use these events to heat up the situation" and are acting "in their own interests...."

These provocative assertions which are a rehash of similar inciting fabrications of some bourgeois press organs are so absurd that there is no need to refute them. The position of the USSR as regards the Iranian-American conflict is known and has been recently once again precisely and clearly stated at the press conference in Bonn by the Soviet minister of foreign affairs who, having expressed the hope that a solution to this question will be found, stressed in particular that the sides, including the United States, must show restraint and keep cool. As regards pronouncements by the Soviet mass information media, everybody who is familiar with them can convince himself that the Soviet press is reporting the events which are taking place completely objectively and is reflecting the viewpoints of both sides.

If RENMIN RIBAO would indeed like to discover evidence of bias and lack of objectivity in the approach to the Iranian-American conflict, then it could find such "material" quite effortlessly not just anywhere but in Beijing itself. Not fortuitously ASSOCIATED PRESS, commenting on the PRC foreign ministry statement which expresses "concern at recent events in relations between Iran and the United States," stresses that "China has today come out on the side of the United States in the Iranian crisis". "Chinese information organs," the agency notes, "have already earlier favored the U.S. Government."

Well, is it really that surprising since, as is known, the deposed shah who is accused by Iran of numerous crimes against his own people,is in the same United States? Relatively recently, in August-September 1978 during the visit to Iran by Hua Guofeng, PRC State Council premier, Britain's THE DAILY TELEGRAPH as well as many American papers noted that "between the shah and the Chinese leader excellent relations have been established...."

COMMENTARY ON BEIJING'S 'NEW AFRICAN POLICY'

LD261212 Moscow in Portuguese to Africa 2030 GMT 24 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Here is a commentary by our observer Aleksandr Fedorov on Beijing's policy in Africa:

The 3 years that have elapsed since Mao Zedong's death have shown that Beijing's policy as regards the national liberation movements, as well as its foreign policy, remain unchanged, in spite of Beijing's insistent talk about a new Chinese policy vis-a-vis developing countries as a whole and African countries in particular.

Particular emphasis was placed upon this aspect for several days by Chinese Vice Premier Li Xiannian during his tour of African countries. He underlined the alleged common destinies of China and the African countries, stating that China will never be a superpower and will never seek hegemony. Those were the words. The facts, however, show that Beijing is committed to achieving a dominant role among the developing countries. Beijing's strategy in Africa remains, as before, geared towards the undermining of the national liberation movements and the political and economic weakening of the African countries so as to bring them more easily under its dictate. China's provocative policy in Africa is increasingly linked with the imperialists' and racists' actions against the African Continent's progressive forces. This became particularly obvious on the eve of and during the summit of heads of state and government of the nonalined countries held in Havana. Beijing carried out subversive activity aimed at dividing the nonalined movement. It slandered Cuba and Vietnam and sought to set the majority of developing countries against them, particularly the African countries. All this was carried out for the benefit of the hegemonic aspirations of the Chinese leaders.

One of the Maoists' favorite subversive methods continues to be their support for divisionist and separatist elements. Beijing resorts widely to this tactic both in Asia and Africa. In Asia, China supports separatist movements in India, Burma, Thailand and Laos, and is increasingly stepping up its subversive activities against those countries. The escalation of subversive actions against Vietnam materialized in a direct attack, and Beijing has not given up plans to carry out a fresh attack against that martyrized country. Beijing supports the divisionist and separatist forces in Ethiopia, Angola and Zimbabwe. In this field, China collaborates with the racist regimes of South Africa and Rhodesia which are engaged in the crushing of the national liberation movements in the southern part of the African Continent. China took part in the imperialist intervention in Zaire and backed the idea of setting up inter-African forces which would play the role of gendarme in the African Continent.

Beijing's economic policy in Africa also remains the same and has all the traits of neocolonialism. Before anything else, the Maoists make use of their contacts with African countries in order to take advantages. Accordingly, they regard as one of their tasks the infiltration into those countries which are rich in raw materials, such as South Africa, Zaire and others. For the sake of its own economic interests, Beijing pursues a policy of treason vis-a-vis the frontline states by developing its trade relations with the racist regimes. According to THE FINANCIAL TIMES, China has recently purchased, through South Africa and against the sanctions imposed by the UN, a large amount of chrome from racist Rhodesia. China also purchases diamonds, copper and lead from South Africa. In the past few years, South African supplies to China were extended to rare minerals and other strategic materials necessary for the manufacture of the nuclear weapon. By commission of Beijing, a large number of Hong Kong firms are engaged in the formalization of trade exchanges with South Africa. Beijing's collaboration with the forces of racism and imperialism is the cause of just indignation in Africa. As the Ethiopian paper HERALD wrote, China is drawing increasingly closer to the stands of the imperialist West and accepts political and military contacts with NATO.

As one can see, therefore, there is no such thing as a new Beijing policy in Africa. The successors of Mao continue to dream of hegemonism, and are seeking to divide the anti-imperialist progressive forces and submit to its own dictate the African countries and other developing nations.

INDIAN GROUP CRITICIZES U.S. 'BLACKMAIL' OF IRAN

LD281241 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Nov 79 P 4 LD

[TASS Report: "Public Appeal"]

[Text] Delhi, 25 November--The All-Indian Peace and Solidarity Organization calls for the immediate withdrawal of all U.S. Armed Forces from the regions of the Near East, the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean and demands that the United States cease its escalation of the arms race and its dangerous provocations against the countries of that region. This is said in a statement published here by the Secretariat of the All-Indian Peace and Solidarity Organization.

The U.S. threat to start a military blockade of the Gulf of Oman, the transfer of the aircraft carrier Kitty Hawk to the Indian Ocean, where there is already a group of warships headed by the aircraft carrier Midway, the freezing of Iran's financial assets in the United States and the Pentagon's open statement of intent to bomb a number of strategic targets in Iran represent direct blackmail of Near Eastern countries and completely give away the plans for U.S. military interference in their internal affairs, the statement points out.

PETROV ON 'HYPOCRISY' OF U.S., PRC ACTIONS IN INDOCHINA

LD271417 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Nov 79 p 4 LD

[A. Petrov commentary under the headline: "Truth Is on the Side of the Struggling Peoples of Indochina"]

[Text] From the moment of its inception imperialist policy has never been notable for its scrupulousness. The severe lessons of history which that policy has repeatedly been taught have clearly not benefited everyone.

This can be seen by the example of the campaign which is being stirred up these days about Kampuchea. Imperialist aggressors, guilty of the destruction of the once prosperous country and of the death of hundreds of thousands of innocent people, pose as humanists and state their 'concern' for the suffering that befell the Kampuchean people, assuring them that from now on they think only of rendering help to the Kampucheans in combatting the threat of starvation and diseases.

They are echoed by Chinese propaganda. Those who fostered Pol Pot, Ieng Sary and the 3 other criminals who for 3 years had tortured Kampucheans, had destroyed about three million people and had virtually doomed the Kampuchean nation to dying out, want to present themselves as 'peacemakers' if their plans are to come true.

Maybe the leaders of the United States and China are suddenly seized with repentance and perhaps twinges of conscience in connection with what had been committed manifestly by themselves? Not at all. They are impelled by a desire to regain domination over that country at all costs.

It is difficult to see without wrath and indignation the photographs of the women, old men and children destroyed by the Pol Pot military and to see with one's own eyes the shadows of people who have survived U.S. bombings and the Pol Pot inferno. But the cynicism of those who make policy and propaganda in Washington and Beijing is such that they wanted to shift the blame for this on others--on Vietnam, on the present leadership of People's Kampuchea, on anyone. They go to the lengths of repeating now, counting on the forgetfulness of the man in the street, that responsibility for the genocide in Kampuchea is borne by Vietnam. This is how the history of the long-suffering country is being literally turned inside out and its present difficulties are almost being portrayed as the result of the overthrow of the Pol Pot regime.

Judging from everything the United States has not up to now reconciled itself to the disgraceful failure of its policy in Indochina. The true disgrace of America wasn't simply military and political defeats in the area. Nothing else has brought the United States such disgrace as the barbarous cruelty with which in the name of freedom, they destroyed everything living in Vietnam, Kampuchea and Laos. The disgrace of imperialist America was at the same time the glory of Vietnam whose heroism and courage displayed in the defence of its own land won it respect throughout the world.

After U.S. aggressors, the Beijing proteges continued tormenting Kampuchea, and not simply tormenting but systematically destroying all who could read and write, who dared think, who dared doubt the "merits" of the Pol Pot variety of Maoism.

Contrary to promises, the United States did not stir a finger to help Vietnam, Kampuchea and Laos to heal the heaviest wounds inflicted by the U.S. aggression. After the war ended, in the eyes of Washington, the states of Indochina and first of all Vietnam, remained enemies on whom revenge is being contemplated.

Therein is evidently the answer to the question why the leading U.S. circles so sympathetically regarded the armed venture which was started against Vietnam this spring by Beijing leaders. The whole world condemned the Chinese invasion whereupon the Americans started looking for excuses and justifications for China's shameful actions.

Beijing's attempts to whitewash the dark deeds of the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary clique are nothing other than attempts to also wash blood from its own hands. But when attempts to whitewash the criminals are being started in the United States, this shatters all the records of political hypocrisy. Only yesterday in the United States, like in other Western countries, that clique was cursed as the world's most hateful regime!

In Washington it will be argued that the United States does not seek Pol Pot's return to power. Then it is rightful to ask: For what reason then do the Americans seek to aid the remains of the Pol Pot gangs that have entrenched themselves in the area of the Thai-Kampuchean border? Why do they want the U.S.'humanitarian aid' routed not along the roads which the Government of Kampuchea designates but along overland roads across the territory of Thailand and across the areas where the bandits have not yet been done away with?

Is not the desire to legalize the channels of support, which is now being illegally given by Beijing, and not only by it, to the Pol Pot scum, too obvious?

It is absurd to speak of humanism and to steer matters to giving aid to those who kill field-tilling peasants, terrorize and kill crop-harvesting people, and continue by all means at their disposal to interfere with the Kampuchean people's peaceful affairs. If the United States and other Western countries are really worried about the difficulties and privations that befell Kampuchea, the rendering of aid should not be accompanied by any conditions.

The recent discussion of so-called 'Kampuchean problem' at the United Nations showed that the United States and some states which follow in the wake of its policy, for the umpteenth time, engaged in using the world body for promoting their ideas in order to complicate the national revival of the peoples of Indochina, primarily Vietnam, and to prevent the states of the area from building their life according to their own plans, on the basis of independence and sovereignty and without interference from the outside. Now by promises, now by arm twisting, now by misinformation of the first degree they delude people. In this they are a practiced hand. There is no doubt that little time will pass and those who voted with the Americans for the proposals which connive at plans having nothing in common with the interests of normalizing the situation in Indochina or with the vital interests of the Kampucheans, will come to see through this.

If one is to speak about the real causes of tension in Southeast Asia, particularly in Indochina, these are intrigues by imperialist forces and by Beijing hegemonists. The strength of Chinese troops is being build up on the borders with Socialist Vietnam and Laos and an undisguised subversive activity is being carried out against People's Kampuchea. It is against those states that imperialists and their Beijing accomplices would like to set adjacent countries, among them ASEAN member states. Attempts are being made to insistently convince Indochina's neighbors that the triumph of the people's revolution in Kampuchea and the presence of Vietnamese troops in its territory are ostensibly a threat to their security. This is an ill-intentioned invention. People's Kampuchea in its very first foreign-policy document stated its adherence to the policy of peace, nonalinement and goodneighborliness. [paragraph continues]

The present tension on the Thai-Kampuchean border is being brought about not by "provocations" by the armed forces of Kampuchea and Vietnam, as is being attempted to make other countries believe, but by the activities of the Pol Pot gangs which use the territory of Thailand for the continuation of so-called "guerrilla war" against People's Kampuchea. By conniving with the Pol Pot forces and by playing up to Beijing's hostile campaign against Vietnam and Kampuchea, aren't ASEAN countries getting into the net cleverly set by Chinese politicians who would first like to do away with Vietnam with the help of ASEAN countries and then one by one subordinate countries of Southeast Asia to themselves?

No one will manage to conceal from the world public the indisputable fact that the formation of People's Kampuchea opened the way for national revival and social progress of the Kampuchean people. New Kampuchea is a political reality of the present-day international life and to shut one's eyes to that means not to see a living reality. How can one place on the same footing the legitimate government, the People's Revolutionary Council which is supported by an absolute majority of the population and is fully in control of the situation in the country, and the gangs of the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary who entrenched themselves in the territory of Thailand and whom the tribunal sentenced to death for the gravest of crimes?

The people of Kampuchea made their choice. It should not be allowed that measures detrimental to the inalienable right of the people of Kampuchea to self-determination, independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of their country, be taken under whatever flag.

The Government of People's Kampuchea in accordance with the treaty of peace, friendship and cooperation between Kampuchea and Vietnam has the right to apply to any state, as it did with regard to Vietnam, with a request for help in insuring the security of its country. This is natural because Kampuchea remains under the seige of those forces which have already brought so much grief to its soil.

The Soviet Union sides with the just struggle of the Kampuchean people. We render material aid which includes food and medicines. The Soviet people will continue to promote the building of a peaceful, independent and genuinely democratic Kampuchea. In this we see our internationalist duty.

Normalization of the situation in Indochina should be started by removing the root causes of the crisis--by ending imperialist interference and by stopping Beijing's expansionist aspirations. Therein lies the key to the strengthening of peace in Indochina. Whoever is against this encourages the forces which try to sow conflicts and hostility.

VERDET SPEAKS AT ROMANIAN CP CONGRESS ON 5-YEAR PLAN

LD280951 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Nov 79 p 4 LD

[Special Correspondents B. Averchenko and S. Petukhov report: "At Romanian Communists' Forum"]

[Text] Bucharest, 22 November--Today is the fourth day of the 12th Romanian Communist Party [RCP] Congress's work. The delegates are summing up the results of the past period and discussing the tasks of the country's further socioeconomic development.

The results of the first 4 years of the current 5-year plan, Romanian Prime Minister I. Verdet said in his speech from the congress rostrum, show that all necessary conditions exist for the full implementation of the tasks outlined by the plan for the country's development for 1976-1980. In industry, as planned at the 1977 national party conference, additional output worth 100 billion lei will be produced. The volume of capital investments will be approximately 970 billion lei.

The speaker noted that the country's national income continues to grow at rates surpassing the social product growth rate. Collectives are consistently seeking to increase labor productivity. The industrial base is expanding in the country. At the same time the scale of cultural and consumer services construction is growing.

At the same time, the Romanian head of government said, in the period remaining until the end of the current 5-year plan it is essential to display persistence and a high degree of exactingness to eliminate the shortcomings which have appeared and to resolve a number of problems which have arisen with a view to meeting the 1980 plan targets and preparing good conditions for the start of the future 5-year plan.

Past years have confirmed, Romanian Prime Minister I. Verdet said, the correctness of our principled position on whose basis we pay exceptional attention to the consistent development of friendship and multifaceted cooperation with the Soviet Union.

Discussion of the draft directives for the country's socioeconomic development in the next 5-year plan, like other draft policy documents, is taking place at plenary sessions and in the 15 working commissions created at the congress to deal with sectors and specific problems. It is a matter of expanding the country's own raw material base, discovering and developing mineral resources, further developing the extractive industry and energy, and producing agricultural output. One of the main avenues of the forthcoming 5-year plan is the consolidation of the energy base. The reserves cited by delegates include the better utilization of coal, the development of hydraulic resources, and the construction of power stations. In collaboration with neighboring socialist countries, powerful new hydroelectric power stations will be erected on the Danube.

The achievements of people's Romania and the directives of the future 5-year plan for the country's development which the 12th RCP Congress delegates are discussing convincingly attest to the enormous potential and power of socialism and demonstrate its historical advantages. The participants in the supreme party forum include many people who are well aware of how hard life was in the old Romania where poverty, unemployment, illiteracy and lack of rights prevailed. Embarking on the path of socialism, the Romanian people under the leadership of the Communist Party have transformed their land in 35 years.

Present day Romania has a developed, diversified industry, a cooperativized agriculture provided with equipment and a considerable scientific research base. Today the Romanian socialist state is envisaging a new upsurge in the country's economy within the framework of the plan and on this basis a further improvement in the people's material and spiritual living standard. The plan directives envisage increasing the population's overall real incomes by 23-25 percent in 1985 in comparison with 198^, with real wages increasing by an average of 16-18 percent. Over the 5-year period the state plans to construct 1.1 million apartments. The second stage of the program to reduce the work week will begin to be implemented so that by the end of the coming 5-year plan it will be 44 hours everywhere.

Analyzing the results of the work done and the prospects of socialist building at the new stage, those taking part in the forum speak of the need to mobilize all material resources and manpower, to make skillful use of the potential which has been created and to improve the leadership of the national economy.

The delegates' attention is centered on questions of improving the style and methods of party committees' activity and developing the initiative and enhancing the role of grassroots party cells. The speakers are noting the importance of intensifying political educational and propaganda work, skillfully organizing the communists' Marxist-Leninist education, developing criticism and self-criticism and stepping up the struggle against shortcomings and omissions. The whole country is following the work of the party's supreme forum. Many labor collectives are working a shock vigil now. The newspapers are publishing telegrams and letters in which city and village workers report to the congress their successes and new pledges.

The 12th RCP Congress is attended by delegations representing communist and workers parties, socialist and social democratic parties, national liberation movements and other democratic and progressive parties and organizations. The foreign guests are familiarizing themselves with Romania's life, meeting with the republic's working people, and visiting industrial and agricultural enterprises. Yesterday the CPSU delegation headed by A. Ya. Pelshe, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee, was warmly welcomed by the collective of one of the oldest enterprises of industrial Ploesti--the May Day plant. Today SCINTEIA the organ of the RCP Central Committee, publishes a detailed report of the meeting held here.

The Romanian communists' congress is continuing its work. It is displaying the cohesion of the RCP's ranks and its strong ties with the people and readiness to implement plans for building a developed socialist society.

GRISHIN DELEGATION VISITS PRAGUE FOR 'DAYS OF MOSCOW'

For CSSR media accounts of the visit to Czechoslovakia by the delegation led by Viktor Grishin, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member, for the Prague Days of Moscow festivities, including texts of his speeches delivered 20 and 22 November, see the Czechoslovak section of the 28 November Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON GROMYKO VISIT TO SPAIN

Joint Communique

LD271117 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Nov 79 p 4 LD

[Text of "Joint Communique on the Official Visit to Spain by A.A. Gromyko, Member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR Foreign Minister"]

[Text] A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister paid an official visit to Spain 19 through 21 November 1979 at the invitation of the Spanish Government.

A.A. Gromyko was received by King Juan Carlos I and A. Suarez Gonzalez, chairman of the government, and held talks with Spanish Foreign Minister M. Oreja Aguirre.

An exchange of opinions on topical international issues took place during the conversations and talks were held in a friendly atmosphere and constructive spirit. The present state of and prospects for relations between the Soviet Union and Spain were also considered in detail.

Both sides once again stated their firm determination to continue to follow the policy of peaceful coexistence, detente and cooperation among all states, irrespective of their political and socioeconomic system, and to do everything in their power to deepen and expand the detente process.

The sides stressed the importance of the Helsinki Final Act, pointing out its enduring significance for the steady development of detente. The need was recognized for constant efforts for the full implementation of all provisions of the Final Act with a view to consolidating and reinforcing security in Europe by strengthening trust and improving mutual understanding and cooperation among all the continent's states.

Aware of the important role that the 1980 Madrid meeting of representatives of the states that participated in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe will play in the process of consolidating detente, the sides stated their determination to make the necessary efforts to insure the meetings success. They advocated that the meeting be held in a constructive atmosphere, make a new contribution to the full implementation of all provisions of the Helsinki Final Act and thereby strengthen political and military detente in Europe. Satisfaction was expressed with the results of the mutual consultations on issues connected with the Madrid meeting, and it was agreed to continue them. M. Oreja Aguirre briefed A.A. Gromyko on the preparatory work being carried out with a view to insuring the successful holding of the meeting in Madrid.

Both sides stated that the Soviet Union and Spain oppose the continuation of the arms race and advocate a transition to specific measures to lower the present level of armaments which would ultimately lead to universal and complete disarmament. They believe that states' material and intellectual resources and the achievements of science and technology must be channeled not into producing means of destruction but into peaceful development in the interests of all mankind.

The Spanish side expressed satisfaction at the signing between the USSR and the United States of the treaty on the limitation of strategic offensive armaments (SALT II) and voiced the hope that this treaty will most speedily be ratified and enter into force, which will contribute to consolidating detente in the world by curbing the strategic arms race and will provide impetus at other talks in the disarmament sphere.

The USSR foreign minister explained in detail the Soviet Union's recent initiatives on questions of military detente and arms limitation in Europe. He noted the USSR's readiness immediately to start talks so as to prevent a further twist in the arms race on the European Continert, particularly in the sphere of the medium-range nuclear weapons. Emphasis was laid on the exceptional importance, under conditions where the preconditions are being created for lessening military confrontation, of preventing decisions that may lead to an intensification of the arms race and disrupt the prevailing equilibrium of forces.

In connection with the problem of strengthening guarantees of the security of states that do not possess nuclear weapons, which is being considered within the UN framework, the Soviet side drew attention to L.I. Brezhnev's statement that the Soviet Union will never use nuclear weapons against those states that renounce the production and acquisition of such weapons and do not have them on their territory.

The sides advocated the speediest establishment of just and lasting peace in the Near East. The reaching of an all-embracing settlement based on UN decisions must include the withdrawal of Israeli troops from all the Arab territories occupied in 1967 and implementation of the Palestinian people's inalienable national rights and the right of all countries in that region to live in peace and security.

The situation on certain other regions of the globe, including Africa, Asia and Latin America, was also examined.

The sides expressed satisfaction at the progress achieved in various spheres of Soviet-Spanish relations. In particular, the positive results in the sphere of economic exchanges were noted and the hope was expressed that the agreement on economic and industrial cooperation which has been prepared and will shortly be signed will contribute to intensifying and expanding ties in this sphere. The noticeable intensification of cultural and scientific exchanges, which are helping to improve mutual acquaintance between the two countries' peoples, was also pointed out.

During the visit the Soviet and Spanish foreign ministers signed a program for cultural and scientific cooperation between the USSR and Spain in 1980-1981 and protocol on cooperation between the state Hermitage Museum in Leningrad and the Prado Museum in Madrid.

The sides expressed satisfaction with the positive results of the visit--results that will contribute to developing the friendly relations between the USSR and Spain for the good of both peoples and in the interests of detente and of consolidating peace. In this connection they reaffirmed the utility of continuing the practice of maintaining contacts and periodic consultations at various levels both on questions of bilateral relations and on international problems of mutual trust, cooperation and friendship.

Oreja, Gromyko Dinner Speeches

LD261619 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Nov 79 p 4 LD

[TASS report on speeches by A.A. Gromyko, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and USSR foreign Minister and M. Oreja Aguirre, Spanish foreign minister, at a dinner given by Oreja for Gromyko in Madrid]

[Text] Madrid, 20 November, TASS--Talks have begun here between A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, and Spanish Foreign Minister M. Oreja Aguirre. An exchange of opinions took place on questions of the development of relations between the two countries, above all in the sphere of political cooperation, and also in the economic and cultural spheres.

A number of topical problems related to the need to consolidate the process of detente, including ending the arms race and disarmament, were also touched on.

The development of the situation in Europe since the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe was discussed, particularly in connection with the forthcoming Madrid meeting.

On 19 November the Spanish foreign minister gave a dinner in honor of the Soviet guest.

Marcelino Oreja Aguirre said in his speech that Andrey Gromyko's visit to Spain was evidence of the mutual desire of our governments to accelerate the development of Soviet-Spanish relations and that substantial successes had been achieved along this road in recent months.

It is desirable, he emphasized, that the foundation of the relations between Spain and the USSR be sound and firm, reducing the geographical distance between the two countries.

The long absence of any contacts and the difference between our political, economic and social systems should not be a barrier, given the desire of our governments to maintain cordial and sincere relations, mutually advantageous for Spain and the Soviet Union.

Today's international conflicts and tension, the minister went on to say, must be settled peacefully, through dialog and talks. We would like to see Europe free of distrust, a Europe of solidarity and not squabbles and dissension. For us, Marcelino Oreja Aguirre pointed out, Europe remains a single entity and Spain would like to see cooperation between all European peoples extending from day to day for the sake of international detente and peace.

We entertain high hopes that the process which was begun by the signing of the Final Act of the Helsinki conference in 1975, and later continued in Belgrade, will enter into a new stage in Madrid next year, and will promote a climate of mutual understanding and cooperation between the peoples of Europe.

Spain, which bears responsibility for arranging next year's meeting of the countries which took part in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, Marcelino Oreja Aguirre said in conclusion, is fully aware of this responsibility. We want the Madrid meeting to be crowned with genuine success which manifests itself in a real advance forward along the road towards consolidation of security in Europe.

In a reply speech A.A. Gromyko said: The talk we had today with the Spanish head of state and the talks you and I have begun, Mr Minister reaffirm that a businesslike, political dialog is underway between the Soviet Union and Spain. This shows once again that Soviet-Spanish relations, after a well-known interruption are entering normal channels. If both sides continue to strive for expansion of links and contacts, the future of our mutual relations can be viewed with confidence.

When the Soviet Union and Spain, which belong to different social systems, start a serious talk, priority is given to questions of peace, disarmament and detente--the pivotal topics of our times. This is clear. There is no objective more crucial for the peoples than the preservation of peaceful conditions of life.

It is only in conditions of peace that it is possible to find ways of solution of major problems facing mankind, including the elimination of economic backwardness, starvation, diseases and the development of new sources of energy. It is only at the negotiation table that it is possible to find solutions for controversial issues.

It is only in an atmosphere of peace and renunciation of any manifestation of aggressiveness and hegemonism that the states can find possibilities for improving their relations.

The whole experience of the 1970s, whose keynote on the whole was detente, testifies to this. We note with satisfaction that our two countries also combined their efforts in a number of cases, above all in elaborating the Helsinki Final Act. The tendency for detente also prevails now. The latest example of this is the recent Geneva all-European high-level conference on cooperation in environmental protection, a matter which directly benefits people.

Meanwhile, the overall picture of world politics is complicated. It gives ground not only for positive conclusions but also for concern.

The principal negative fact is the continuing arms race. More, a threat has now arisen of a further spiral of this race in Europe. New medium-range nuclear missiles are to be deployed on the territory of several West European NATO members, and this occurs against the background of the USSR's recent peace initiatives, which not only make it possible to avoid intensifying the arms race in Europe but also emphatically to reverse it.

If they want to carry missiles to the threshold of our home, let them not expect that the Soviet Union will simply watch passively.

International practice has known for a long time that it is easier to avert a dangerous development in advance than to cope later with its consequences. The means for this are also known: talks.

The Soviet Union desires that talks precede any steps which would deliberately undermine the chances of reaching accords on military detente and disarmament in Europe. It is now up to the Western countries.

As you must know, Leonid Brezhnev solemnly declared that our nuclear weapons would not be used against those states which renounce the manufacture and acquisition of such weapons and do not have them on their territory. The Soviet Union is ready to formulate commitments to this effect with any interested state. This proposal has also been addressed to Spain, taking into consideration that, as announced now, there are no longer nuclear weapons on its territory.

A meeting of representatives of the states which participated in the all-European conference is to be held here in Madrid in a year's time. The Soviet Union is ready to contribute to the constructive holding of the Madrid meeting and to its success. For the Madrid meeting to be a success it is necessary, in our opinion, that the meeting should have before it feasible objectives. Such objectives, the solution of which would further the realization of the Final Act in all important respects, would help strengthen political and military detente in Europe.

The still unresolved Middle East problem negatively affects, as before, the world situation. It is now clear to all that the anti-Arab deal in the Middle East has led the cause of settlement into a blind alley. It is only through frustrating the deal, through collective efforts of all sides concerned, including the Palestine Liberation Organization, that it is possible to open the way to a fair and durable peace in that region. It seems that the approaches of the Soviet Union and Spain are very close in this.

Statements by Spanish leaders on allegiance to the policy of detente do not pass unheeded in the Soviet Union. It is exactly due to its independent foreign policy, oriented to peace and detente, that Spain enhances its positive potential in the international arena. We express the hope that Spain will continue following this path. The Soviet and the Spanish peoples have a good foundation for the development of friendly links. Broad possibilities are now opening for an advance forwarded in all spheres where there is mutual interest in it, including trade and economic, scientific and technical and cultural spheres. But, the political sphere, cooperation for the good of peace, remains the most important.

The great Spanish writer Cervantes, who enriched the world literature with characters which remain strikingly vivid today, expressed it well through one of his heroes: "Peace is the supreme asset that people could desire in this life." It seems that these words, permeated by the feeling of state responsibility, have been taken from the contemporary vocabulary. One should think that every Spaniard will subscribe to these words now.

Remarks on Middle East

LD261327 Barcelona LA VANGUARDIA in Spanish 22 Nov 79 pp 5-6 LD

[Excerpts] Madrid, 21 November--"My visit to Spain has been highly satisfactory since I have established that both our countries are in agreement with respect to defending world peace and detente." This was said by USSR Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko a few hours before leaving our country for Bonn, where he will have important meetings with the German leaders to discuss disarmament topics. Following this morning's talks with Spanish Foreign Minister Marcelino Oreja at the Santa Cruz Palace, Andrey Gromyko attended an "informal meeting" with the Spanish press. During the meeting the following exchanges took place:

[Question] How do you view the latest events which have occured over the past few days in the Middle East?

[Answer] There are many recent events, not only in that area but throughout the world.

[Question] We are referring to the U.S. threat to intervene in Iran unless the U.S. Embassy hostages are released....

[Answer] We advocate maintaining good relations with Iran. The USSR has a positive attitude toward the Iranian revolution, but this is an internal matter. Nobody must interfere from outside in Iran's internal affairs. I would not care to comment on the latest events concerning the seizure of the U.S. officials in that country, since I am in Spain and I am not very sure what is happening there. Nevertheless, I hope that this problem will reach a satisfactory solution.

[Question] What kind of solution?

[Answer] I do not now want to comment on this topic.

[Question] What is the USSR's attitude with regard to the Middle East?

[Answer] Our attitude is that peace must reign in that area. All the Arab lands occupied by Israel must be returned. We defend the Palestinian people's inalienable rights. All the countries of the Middle East have the right to exist as independent and sovereign countries, and that includes the State of Israel.

DEVELOPMENT OF SPANISH-SOVIET RELATIONS PROGRESSING WELL

LD261557 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Nov 79 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[Correspondent L. Kamynin report under the rubric "Letter from Madrid": "Positive Turn"]

[Text] November in Madrid is a month of changeable weather. One moment penetrating wind and rain blow down from the Sierra Guaderrama into the city, and the next warm sunshine is flooding the blue cloudless sky like gold. Madrid people are used to such inconstant weather, and it is not reflected in the rhythm of life in the Spanish capital. This is determined by something else--intensive work is being done in ministry offices and in the Cortes, in the political parties and public organizations to resolve urgent problems and finally eliminate the Franco inheritance on the country's road to democratic transformations.

The process of change has opened up broad horizons before Spain. Figuratively speaking, they can be clearly seen from the capital's Santa Cruz Palace, where the Spanish Foreign Ministry is located.

Proclaiming a policy of peace and cooperation among peoples, the new Spain has already won prestige in the international arena. Adolfo Suarez' government has stressed more than once that it regards assisting the detente process as one of its paramount tasks. This has been backed by real action.

Broad political and social circles in the country greeted with satisfaction the signing of the Soviet-American treaty on strategic offensive arms limitation by L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and U.S. President J. Carter in Vienna. Many politicians to whom I talked assessed this event as an exceptionally important step on the path to eliminating the threat of nuclear war and ridding the peoples of the heavy and dangerous burden of the arms race. Spanish Foreign Minister Marcelino Oreja Aguirre spoke in support of this treaty from the UN General Assembly rostrum.

Just recently the Spanish Foreign Ministry invited the ambassadors of the countries which participated in the all-European conference in Helsinki to visit the Madrid Congress and Exhibition Center. In 1980 this building will be the venue for the meeting of representatives of the countries which participated in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. The hospitable hosts are declaring their wish to do everything to insure that the forthcoming meeting is crowned by important, constructive results for the sake of peace on our continent.

Representatives of political parties and the ordinary man "in the street," when answering journalists' questions, are agreed on one thing--we cannot allow Europe to be overwhelmed by more and more new twists in the arms race, which could plunge the peoples into a thermonuclear catastrophe. This is why the new peace initiatives from the Soviet Union, put forward in Leonid Brezhnev's Berlin speech, met with warm approval among Spanish people.

Diplomatic relations between our two countries were established in 1977. In this short time a considerable amount has already been done. Progress was achieved in Soviet-Spanish relations in particular after the official visit to the Soviet Union by Marcelino Oreja Aguirre, Spanish foreign minister, at the beginning of this year. [paragraph continues]

The talks held in Moscow concluded with the signing of agreements on cultural and scientific cooperation and also on scientific and technical cooperation. The Soviet Union and Spain, as the joint communique noted, stressed their desire to develop their relations further in all spheres in a spirit of mutual trust, cooperation and friendship.

This is convincingly attested by facts. Trade relations between our two countries are gathering momentum. The volume of trade turnover is growing and the range of goods making up our countries' reciprocal imports and exports is expanding. Spain has started buying Soviet Lada and Niva motor vehicles, and interest in buying and selling chemical goods raised the question of creating another mixed Soviet-Spanish trading company, named Sochimes. Just recently an announcement appeared in Madrid newspapers that the Spanish-American Bank, one of the country's largest, has opened an office in Moscow to "promote the search for new commercial opportunities."

Business circles in Spain are showing constantly increasing interest in establishing and developing trade and economic ties with the Soviet Union. Recently a delegation of the Spanish Confederation of Employers' Organizations headed by its president, Carlos Ferrer Salat, visited our country. This is what Jose Antonio Segurado, chairman of the confederation's International Relations Commission and a member of the delegation, told us:

"Our commission is currently setting up a group of experts to study opportunities for improving our bilateral ties. I can say, without fear of contradiction, that there are enormous possibilities for developing economic relations between Spain and the USSR. All employers in the confederation are interested in this, not only on a strictly economic level but also on the cultural, scientific and technical levels."

The agreements signed at the beginning of the year in Moscow are already in force, enriching the content of Soviet-Spanish relations. The first session of a mixed intergovernmental commission was held here recently; it elaborated and agreed on an extensive program of cultural and scientific exchange for 1980-1981. Another mixed Soviet-Spanish intergovernmental commission--on scientific and technical cooperation--held its first session in Moscow.

Emilio Saez, vice president of the Supreme Council for Scientific Research, prominent historian and professor at Madrid's Complutense University, told me of his trip to Moscow last summer as a member of a delegation headed by Luis Gonzalez Seara, Spanish minister of research and universities.

"Scientific exchange with the Soviet Union is of great interest to us," E. Saez told me. "Favorable opportunities for such exchange are created by the Spanish-Soviet agreement on scientific and technical cooperation."

The positive changes which have occurred in Soviet-Spanish relations accord with the interests of our two countries' peoples and are a weighty contribution to the process of detente and strengthening peace in Europe. Madrid attaches great significance to the forthcoming official visit to Spain by USSR Foreign Minister A.A. Gromyko and to the Soviet-Spanish talks. They will undoubtedly open up new opportunities for the further development of relations between our countries.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON PONOMAREV VISIT TO ITALY

Official Statement

LD2711141 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Nov 79 p 5 LD

[Text of "Statement on a Meeting of a Delegation of the Foreign Affairs Commissions of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of the Union and Soviet of Nationalities with a Delegation of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Italian Parliament's Chamber of Deputies"]

[Text] A delegation of the foreign affairs commissions of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of the Union and Soviet of Nationalities headed by B.N. Ponomarev, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of Nationalities Foreign Affairs Commission, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, was in Italy 15 through 21 November 1979 on an official visit at the invitation of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Italian Parliament's Chamber of Deputies.

During its stay in Italy the Soviet delegation had meetings with F. Cossiga, chairman of the Council of Ministers; F.M. Malfatti, minister of foreign affairs; A. Fanfani, president of the Senate; and L. Jotti, president of the Chamber of Deputies. It had a number of useful meetings with members of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Italian Parliament's Chamber of Deputies, in which the following participated: on the Soviet side--B.N. Ponomarev, L.N. Zaykov, P.N. Fedoseyev, Ye.K. Fedorov, M.I. Umakhanov and A.B. Chakovskiy; on the Italian side--G. Andreotti, L. Radi, G.C. Pajetta, E. Manca, R. Cicciomessere, V. Miceli, A. de Poi, R. Battaglia, G.C. Codignani, P. Romualdi and L. Magri.

In a businesslike atmosphere and a spirit of cooperation questions of bilateral relations, as well as a number of key international problems, were discussed.

The Soviet and Italian parliamentarians noted with satisfaction the successful development of Soviet-Italian relations, which play a constructive role in international life. It was pointed out during the exchange of opinions that considerable reserves exist for deepening and broadening such cooperation both in the economic and cultural spheres and in the political sphere. In this connection it was pointed out that contacts between the USSR Supreme Soviet and the Italian Parliament are an important element in strengthening relations between the two countries.

Great attention was devoted to discussing urgent problems of the development of the world situation and international politics.

There was a frank exchange of opinions on questions of the military-political situation taking shape on the European Continent. The desire was expressed on both sides to continue and deepen the detente process in Europe by making persistent progress to that end along the path of supplementing political detente with detente in the military sphere, reducing military confrontation and strengthening confidence among states.

The Soviet and Italian parliamentarians are convinced that observance of the principle of the inadmissibility of military superiority over each other on the part of the NATO countries and of the Warsaw Pact states is the precondition for progress along that path. Measures to limit arms and armed forces on the European Continent must accordingly be backed up by consistent observance of the principle of equal security and observance of the sides' military parity.

Sides were agreed that the speediest discussion at the negotiating table of all disputed issues relating to this sphere is a path in that direction.

The USSR Supreme Soviet deputies set forth a package of proposals from the Soviet Union aimed at strengthening peace and security on the European Continent, dwelling especially on the recent initiatives advanced on 6 October and 6 November this year by L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

The Soviet side expressed the conviction that the implementation of the proposals advanced by L.I. Brezhnev on starting talks without delay would help reduce armed forces and strengthen peace in Europe.

The Italian delegation positively assessed these proposals and, expressing the viewpoint of the different political parties represented in Parliament, focused attention on the importance of observance of the equilibrium of arms as a precondition for resolving the question of balanced disarmament.

The parliamentarians of the USSR and Italy were unanimous that the Soviet-American treaty on the limitation of strategic offensive arms (SALT II) is a major step on the path of slowing down the arms race and gives a strong boost to progress at the talks on the whole range of disarmament problems. They came out decisively for the speediest validation of the SALT II treaty.

The sides confirmed their full support for the fulfillment in full of the all-European conference's Final Act as a reliable guideline for action in the interests of peace and security. They voiced the hope that the meeting to be held in Madrid in 1980 by representatives of the states which participated in the all-European conference will take place successfully and in a constructive atmosphere.

Particular attention was devoted during the meetings and talks to the question of the development of relations between CEMA and the EEC, as well as the contribution which the industrially developed countries must make to the process of the developing countries' economic and social upsurge.

The delegation of the foreign affairs commissions of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of the Union and Soviet of Nationalities invited the delegation of the Chamber of Deputies Foreign Affairs Commission to pay a return visit to the Soviet Union. The invitation was accepted with satisfaction.

Meeting With Parliamentary Commission

LD201713 Moscow TASS in English 1622 GMT 20 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Rome, November 20, TASS--A delegation of the foreign affairs commissions of the two chambers of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, led by Boris Ponomarev, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet, had a concluding meeting with a delegation of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Chamber of Deputies of the Italian Parliament.

Speaking at this meeting Giulio Andreotti, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Chamber of Deputies of the Italian Parliament, stressed the importance of the very fact of such talks being held. In his opinion personal contacts and frank discussions between parliamentarians can help the governments of the two countries and the public in their search for peaceful solutions to the existing problems.

He pointed out that cooperation between Italy and the USSR in the economic, cultural and political fields is proceeding positively and said that it should be further expanded. He said that although the Soviet Union and Italy belong to different political alliances, detente and development of a dialogue between them are in the interests of both countries and meet the requirements of the time.

Speaking of the disarmament problem, Giulio Andreotti expressed concern over the present arms race in the world.

I do not believe, he said, that the Soviet Union intends to commit an aggression against Italy. The leader of the Italian delegation stressed the importance of the SALT II treaty between the USSR and the USA and pointed to the need for its earliest ratification. He stressed that Italy should become an active participant in the process of international detente.

In his statement at the concluding meeting Boris Ponomarev stressed the importance of the present moment in Europe and the entire world. The destructive power of modern armaments is exceedingly great. There exist forces in the West which are whipping up the arms race, both quantitatively and qualitatively. This is at variance with the will of the peoples who want a lasting peace. This is especially true of those of them which have had the tragic experience of World War Two. Hence the need for and possibility of achieving quickly agreements on stopping the arms race, on arms limitation and reduction. It is practically in the course of many years that the Soviet Union has been proving its sincere desire to achieve this aim, by submitting numerous constructive and realistic proposals that take into account the present international situation.

In this connection Boris Ponomarev recalled such Soviet proposals as those for freezing the level of the armed forces and armaments in central Europe and for concluding a treaty between participants of the European conference pledging not to be the first to use either nuclear or conventional arms, proposals which unfortunately met with no positive response from the West.

In his statement the leader of the Soviet delegation took into consideration with satisfaction the statements of Italian parliamentarians to the effect that they do not believe that the Soviet Union has any aggressive intentions. Then what are new American missiles on European soil needed for? What is needed is not new armaments, but talks on their reduction.

The Soviet Union is doing everything possible for preserving peace. An example of this are the historic initiatives that were set forth by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR Leonid Brezhnev in his speech in Berlin and in his reply to PRAVDA's correspondent. "Talks are a vital imperative," said the leader of the Soviet delegation Boris Ponomarev, "and they should be started without delay." The programme, which is suggested by the socialist community to the peoples of the whole of Europe, proceeds exactly from this need. The characteristic feature of this programme is that it covers all the principal aspects of military detente on the continent. Implementation of this programme would not give any unilateral benefits to the Soviet Union or to any other socialist country. All countries of the continent would gain from its fulfilment Boris Ponomarev urged the Italian parliamentarians to take an active part in the common struggle against the arms race.

Speaking of the question of bilateral Soviet-Italian relations, the leader of the Soviet delegation reaffirmed the willingness of the Soviet Union to expand all-round relations with Italy.

The Soviet deputies invited Italian parliamentarians to visit the Soviet Union. The invitation was gratefully accepted.

IRANIAN AMBASSADOR IN USSR CONDEMNS U.S. MILITARY MOVES

LD271910 Moscow TASS in English 1855 GMT 27 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, November 27, TASS--We wish to live in friendship and peace with all peoples, including the American people, but we shall not let the land of Iran to become an arena of shows of strength, Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Soviet Union Mohammad Mokri said at a press conference here today. "We are not to be intimidated either by the fact that the U.S. Navy is heading for our coasts or by the economic blockade by the USA", he stressed.

"We do not seek war. It is the U.S. Navy now heading for the coasts of Iran that threatens us, Mohammad Mokri said. All the 35 millions of Iranians will go to the battlefield and only after they all perish will the United States be able to do all it wishes in Iran."

The ambassador expressed perplexity over the facts that the Western mass media suppresses the facts about the crimes of the former shah during whose rule hundreds of thousands of people were tortured to death in prisons, perished or were maimed by torture. Mohammad Mokri stressed that the main demand of the Iranian people to the U.S. authorities is the extradition of the shah so that he should be tried for his crimes.

The Iranian ambassador said further that occupation by the United States of the south of Iran and oilfields would have disastrous consequences for the economy of the Western world and would cause a conflict between the United States and its Western partners. He also expressed the confidence that the Persian Gulf states will not allow the USA to land its troops in their territories and stressed that the Government of Bahrain already made such a statement.

Touching upon the state of Soviet-Iranian relations, Mohammad Mokri described them as "fraternal and goodneighbourly". "We respect each other's sovereignty, he said, and Soviet-Iranian relations have the best of prospects". The ambassador also said that the meeting he had on Monday with member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko took place in "a fraternal, constructive and frank atmosphere".

AFP Report

Paris AFP in English 1814 GMT 27 Nov 79 NC

[Text] Moscow, Nov 27, (AFP)--Iranian Ambassador to Moscow Mohammad Mokri said today that his country expected only "moral" support from the Soviet Union and had asked for no military aid.

Mr Mokri, who returned here recently from Tehran, declined to give details on his meeting Monday with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko, stating only that relations between Iran and the USSR were "developing nicely." He refused to disclose whether the Soviet Union would support Iran's position on the hostages at the American Embassy in Tehran.

Asked about the 1921 Soviet-Iranian treaty, Mr Mokri confirmed that articles five and six on Soviet military intervention if Iran was threatened had been annulled "because they are unnecessary at present," adding, however, that the other articles of the treaty remained in effect.

On the current crisis between Tehran and Washington, Mr Mokri took up Iranian (?leader Ayatollah) Khomeyni's claim that "our population is prepared to fight to the death."

He added that he did not discount the possible U.S. use of an atomic bomb against Iran.

"We are prepared for a new Hiroshima," he said.

PRAVDA CARRIES ROUNDUP OF IRAN CRISIS DEVELOPMENTS

LD271303 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Nov 79 p 5 LD

[TASS roundup dated 24 November: "On Events in Iran"]

[Text] Washington--The Pentagon has announced that U.S. Army Secretary C. Alexander is setting out on Monday on a 10-day tour of the Near East, during which he will visit Israel, Egypt and Sudan. He will visit military units and military installations in those countries and will confer with government officials.

As the New York DAILY NEWS maintains, citing government sources, "J. Carter continues to rule out any possibility of freeing the 49 American hostages in the U.S. Embassy in Tehran by military means, because no one can come up with a plan which would have any chance of success." The newspaper points out that "J. Carter's advisers on defense and national security affairs favor a military rescue operation, while State Department advisers are opposed to it."

In an article devoted to the anti-American actions in eastern countries the Washington POST writes that "the anti-Americanism associated with the recent disturbances in the Muslim world is the result of three main factors: U.S. support for Israel, close U.S. ties with the toppled shah's regime and the widespread conviction in many countries that America is the symbol of the Western ideas infiltrating those countries."

Interviewed on television, CIA Director S. Turner admitted that the United States had underestimated the strength of the Iranian revolution in the belief that the shah's regime, armed to the teeth with American weapons, would be able to "deal on its own" with the rebellious people.

We saw in Iran the wide discontent among different groups of the population with the political, economic and religious conditions under the shah's rule, Turner said. However, we did not believe that events would develop like this. According to the CIA chief, Washington thought that, with all his military and police might, the shah would be able to crush the people's movement before it "got out of control." I do not know why the shah was unable to do so, he said.

Paris--A LE MATIN correspondent reports from Tel Aviv that the Israeli Army is voicing a desire to cooperate with the United States if the latter undertakes military operations against Iran. LE MATIN points out that Israeli Prime Minister Begin has already informed the White House of Israeli's readiness to participate in a joint operation.

The United States is continuing its efforts aimed at undermining the Iranian revolution. It would be naive to believe that Washington, which in the past placed the now toppled shah on the throne, will agree to back down voluntarily, the journal AFRIQUE-ASIE writes.

Referring to documents discovered inside the U.S. Embassy in Tehran, the journal AFRIQUE-ASIE reveals the aims of the secretly created so-called American-Iranian "working groups," which included members of the former Bazargan government and certain army officers. Their activities were aimed at safeguarding American interests in Iran and their methods consisted of preventing those forces which overthrew the shah from establishing control in the country, encouraging anarchy in every possible way and provoking various excesses.

According to the journal, false passports with which politicians and military figures who had committed crimes against the Iranian people and agents of SAVAK--the shah's former secret police--could flee abroad were also discovered in the U.S. Embassy. There is evidence that the CIA actively finances opponents of the Iranian revolution sheltering in West Europe. CIA leader S. Turner was personally entrusted with working to unite Iranian elements which have remained loyal to the Pahlavi dynasty with a view to preparing them to seize power, AFRIQUE-ASIE points out, recalling the exposures made in Beirut by Imam Tabataba'i, who was subsequently killed under mysterious circumstances.

Tehran--In a televised speech Ayatollah Khomeyni has virtually urged the people to wage a holy war against the United States if it undertakes military interference in Iran. American ships and aircraft do not frighten us, he said. It will be a great honor for every one of us to die in the struggle for a righteous cause.

IRANIAN TROOPS IN KORDESTAN ORDERED TO HALT COMBAT OPERATIONS

LD271132 Moscow TASS in English 1050 GMT 27 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Tehran, November 27, TASS--The united headquarters of the Islamic Republic of Iran issued an order to the government troops in Kordestan to cease combat operations and return to the places of stationing. The headquarters' statement broadcast over the Tehran Radio points out that the decision was taken in response to the declaration of a ceasefire on the part of the Democratic Party of Iranian Kordestan. The Democratic Party of Iranian Kordestan called on the Kurdish population of Iran to hold mass demonstrations in support of the positive results that have been achieved at the talks between the government delegation and Kurdish representatives.

MOSCOW PERSIAN REPORTS KDP STATEMENT ON TALKS WITH GOVERNMENT

NC271816 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1100 GMT 27 Nov 79 NC

[Text] According to Tehran Radio, the Kurdish Democratic Party [KDP] has published a statement after the completion of the second round of talks between a central government-clergy delegation and Kurdish politicians. Confronted with the possible armed intervention of U.S. imperialism, the KDP supports the anti-imperialist policy of Ayatollah Khomeyni and sees the need to strengthen this policy in the defense of Iranian self-rule and independence. U.S. imperialist intrigues have caused internal reaction for the Iranian revolution. Under these conditions, the cooperation of all forces is necessary to crush the ominous designs of imperialism and reaction and to support Khomeyni's present policies on defending Iran's sovereignty and independence and on solving the Kurdish national problem. The KDP completely approves of a peaceful solution of the Kurdish crisis and the political talks that have begun in this respect. The KDP announces that a 20-day cease-fire is in force beginning 24 November and invites the government to refrain from any military activities that might endanger the area's peace. In the face of foreign aggression, the KDP announces a mobilization of all its forces, along with others, for the defense of Iranian independence and territorial integrity. Kurdish religious and political leader Sheykh Hosseyni told BAMDAD newspaper: The Kurds do not want a continuation of the fratricidal war, but this does not mean that we will abandon the struggle for our national rights. We prefer a solution achieved through peaceful means over one achieved through force of arms. He pointed out that the Kurds were not trying to separate themselves from Iran, for they count it as their own land.

PLENARY MEETING OF CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE HELD 27 NOV

LD271811 Moscow TASS in English 1809 GMT 27 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, November 27, TASS--A regular plenary meeting of the CPSU Central Committee was held here today. It heard reports by Nikolay Baybakov, chairman of the State Planning Committee, and Vasiliy Garbuzov, minister of finance, on the state plan for the economic and social development of the USSR and on the state budget of the USSR for 1980.

General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Leonid Brezhnev delivered a big speech at the plenum.

The plenary meeting of the CPSU Central Committee adopted on the questions discussed a resolution approving in the main the draft plan and the draft budget for the next year and instructed the Council of Ministers to submit these drafts to the regular session of the USSR Supreme Soviet for consideration.

The resolution fully approves the provisions and conclusions set forth in Leonid Brezhnev's speech at the plenum and says that they will be taken as a basis for the activities of party, state and economic organs and public organizations in carrying out the plan for 1980.

The plenum of the CPSU Central Committee expressed in its resolution firm confidence that the workers, cooperative peasants, intelligentsia and all the working people of the country under the leadership of the party will redouble their efforts in the struggle for further strengthening the economic might of the country.

The plenum of the CPSU Central Committee promoted Nikolay Tikhonov from alternate member to full member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and elected Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee.

At this plenum closed.

A meeting of the Central Auditing Commission of the CPSU was also held today. It discussed and approved a plan for the commission's work in 1980.

[Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1800 GMT on 27 November in a similar report on the CPSU Central Committee session adds:

[Those who spoke in the debate were comrades:

[Grishin, first secretary of the Moscow Gorkom;
[Romanov, first secretary of the Leningradskiy Obkom;
[Sikolov, second secretary of the Central Committee of the Ukraine Communist Party;
[Rashidov, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Uzbekistan Communist Party;

[Pavlovskiy, USSR Minister of railways;
[Aliyev, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Azerbaijan Communist Party;
[Manyakin, first secretary of the Omskiy Obkom;
[Morozov, first secretary of the Tselinogradskiy Obkom of the Kazakhstan Communist Party;
[Aleksandrov, president of the USSR Academy of Sciences.]

Decisions of Central Committee Plenum

LD272003 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 27 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Decision of the CPSU Central Committee:

On the drafts of the state plan for the USSR's economic and social development and the USSR state budget for 1980.

To approve in the main the drafts of the state plan for the USSR's economic and social development and the USSR state budget for 1980.

To the USSR Council of Ministers--to submit these drafts for examination at the next session of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

To approve completely and fully the points and conclusions set forth in the speech by Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee at the current plenum, and to place them at the basis of the work of all party, administrative and economic bodies, trade union and Komsomol organizations on the fulfillment of the 1980 plan for implementation of the directives of the 25th CPSU Congress on questions of the party's economic policy.

The plenum of the CPSU Central Committee stressed the need to insure the further dynamic and proportionate development of social production and the consistent implementation of the policy towards raising the effectiveness and quality of work in all elements of the national economy.

Particular attention must be concentrated on growth of labor productivity, acceleration of the intensification of production on the basis of scientific-technical progress and towards improving planning and management of the economy.

It is necessary to persistently carry out work on the further development of the fuel and raw material base, power engineering, metallurgy, machinebuilding, chemical and other industries; to use to the maximum reserves and possibilities to improve the work of railway and other types of transport; the output of basic production funds should be increased and labor, raw material, fuel and energy and financial resources, and everything that our national economy has at its disposal should be used rationally and economically.

To expand the output of quality consumer goods.

Unremitting attention needs to be devoted in future to implementing the decisions of the July 1978 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee directed towards the strengthening and further development of the material-technical base of agriculture, increasing the output of production of this important branch of the economy and to improve the use of technology in agriculture and of funds channeled toward its development.

To carry out the wintering of cattle in an organized manner; to prevent a reduction in live-stock, to prepare well for spring fieldwork and to insure an increase in the yield of agricultural crops, the productivity of cattle and poultry and the fulfillment and over-fulfillment of the 1980 state plans for purchase of farming and stockbreeding products.

The plenum of the CPSU Central Committee considers it necessary to decidedly improve the state of affairs in capital construction, to raise the effectiveness of capital investments, to reduce the number of building sites which have to be restarted and to concentrate efforts and means towards projects due for commissioning as well as the reconstruction and technical re-equiping of enterprises already in operation, and to raise the quality of construction in all branches of the national economy.

Party organizations are to improve political and organizational work at industrial, construction and transport enterprises, at kolkhozes and sovkhozes and scientific establishments, and to direct it towards the all-round development of the labor activity of the masses, improving organization and discipline, stepping up the personal responsibility of cadres for jobs entrusted to them, for the further upsurge of the economy, science and culture and the people's well-being.

To spread widely socialist competition to meet in a worthy manner the 110th anniversary of Lenin's birth, for a successful conclusion to the 10th 5-Year Plan.

The plenum of the CPSU Central Committee expresses the firm confidence that workers and collective farmers, the intelligentsia, and all the working people of the country, under the leadership of the Leninist party, will multiply their efforts in the struggle for the further strengthening of our homeland's economic might, and will mark 1980, the final year of the 10th 5-Year Plan, with new achievements in all sectors of communist construction.

Comment by Plenum Participant

LD272020 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 27 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Listen to an interview given to our correspondent by Yevgeniy Konstantinovich Fedorov, participant in the plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, Hero of the Soviet Union, chairman of the Soviet Committee for the Defense of Peace, member of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. [begin recording]

The plenum which has just ended was devoted to a very important question--the question of discussing the plan for development of the national economy for next year and the budget for next year. A major [bolshoy] speech was delivered by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev. The speech made a very deep impression on all participants of the plenum.

Leonid Ilich noted both the great struggle which our country is waging for the maintenance of peace and the great achievements with which the Soviet people welcome the final year of the tenth 5-year plan. At the same time, in a direct Leninist manner, he noted the defects which still exist in the work of various branches of the economy. He noted not only these defects but also pointed out the great reserves, the great opportunities which are still far from always being used to completely fulfill the tasks set by the 5-year plan and stemming from the decisions of the 25th congress of our party.

In their speeches, participants in the plenum who represented the party organizations of several union republics and oblasts, ministers, the president of the Academy of Sciences, threw detailed light on the situation in their industries and oblasts and showed from concrete examples the struggle of the working people to fulfill the tasks of the 5-year plan.

In this respect the coming year will play an important role. It is the final year of the 10th 5-Year Plan. It is the year in which we shall have to prepare for the 11th 5-Year Plan. It is the year in which we shall mark the 110th anniversary of the birth of Vladimir Ilich Lenin, and Leonid Ilich Brezhnev called on all of us, all the people of our country, to work in that year in a Leninist way. [end recording]

Tikhonov Biography

ID271822 Moscow TASS in English 1812 GMT 27 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, November 27, TASS--The plenary meeting of the CPSU Central Committee held here today promoted Nikolay Tikhonov from alternate member to full member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee.

Nikolay Tikhonov was born in 1905. In pre-war and post-war years, he held a number of leading posts in the USSR Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy. From 1957 to 1960, he worked in the Ukraine, heading the Economic Council of Dnepropetrovsk. Since 1960, he was deputy chairman of the State Scientific and Economic Council of the USSR Council of Ministers, since 1963 he was deputy chairman of the USSR State Planning Committee, USSR minister.

Since 1965, Nikolay Tikhonov was deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and since 1976 he is first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers. In 1978, he was elected alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee.

Nikolay Tikhonov, is deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Soviet parliament.

COMMENTATOR PREVIEWS USSR SUPREME SOVIET SESSION

ID271642 Moscow TASS in English 1636 GMT 27 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, November 27, TASS--TASS commentator Petr Lidin writes: A regular session of the USSR Supreme Soviet, which was elected in the spring of this year, is opening in the Moscow Kremlin tomorrow. It would be recalled that the Soviet parliament consists of two equal chambers, each having the same number of deputies. One of them is the Soviet of the Union, which represents the entire population of the USSR, and the other the Soviet of Nationalities, representing the peoples living in the union and autonomous republics, autonomous regions and areas of the USSR. Among the 1,500 deputies of the USSR Supreme Soviet over half are workers and cooperative farmers, about one-third of deputies are women. More than 20 percent of Soviet parliamentarians are young people under 30.

The Supreme Soviet of the USSR is the highest body of state authority in the country. Its present session is to consider, among other questions, such important matters as the results of fulfillment of the state plan for the economic and social development of the Soviet Union in 1979 and the state budget for 1978 as well as a draft plan and a draft budget of the USSR for 1980.

The meetings of Soviet parliament, which are to begin tomorrow in the Kremlin, were preceded by a great amount of preparatory work done by the deputies of the Supreme Soviet in numerous commissions. Each of the chambers has commissions--more than ten of them--which are concerned with major aspects of the life of the country.

These are commissions on industry, on agriculture, on science and technology, on consumer goods and trade, health services and social security, nature conservation, and others. They meet regularly in the interims between the sessions.

All these commissions had regular meetings in Moscow last week to discuss relevant sections of the documents which are to be brought up for discussion at the Supreme Soviet session.

The deputies noted specifically the successes achieved by the Soviet Union this year in the further development of the national economy, the successful fulfillment of the program for raising the living standards of the Soviet people. At the same time the commission meetings heard critical statements by deputies who had made a number of remarks concerning certain leading officials of ministries and departments that failed to ensure complete fulfillment of production assignments.

Critical remarks and wishes expressed by parliamentarians are to be summed up at the session in the commissions' co-reports which will be made at the meeting of the Soviet of the Union and the Soviet of Nationalities.

In all its activities, the USSR Supreme Soviet is using such a system and procedure that are designed to ensure complete democracy in the functioning of the supreme body of state authority in the Soviet Union.

SUPREME SOVIET PRESIDIUM MEETS ON UPCOMING JOINT SESSION

LD272229 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1830 GMT 27 Nov 79 LD

[Text] A regular meeting of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium was held in the Kremlin today under the chairmanship of Vasiliy Kuznetsov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

It was with great satisfaction that members of the Presidium received the results of the November 1979 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, and the speech made at the plenum by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Leonid Brezhnev, who thoroughly analyzed the key problems of the economic and social development of the country and clearly defined the tasks requiring a concentration of efforts by the party and the people. Confidence was expressed that the consistent implementation of the plenum's decisions and of Leonid Brezhnev's directives will have a favorable effect on our economic practice and make it possible in the concluding year of the 5-year plan to take a new step forward in economic, social and cultural development, in raising the people's other state bodies, at all levels.

The Presidium considered questions relating to the holding of the Second Session of the USSR Supreme Soviet of the Tenth Convocation. Following information from Comrade Kuznetsov, proposals were discussed and adopted on the agenda and procedure of work of the session of the supreme organ of state power.

The Presidium discussed the question of completing the work of the budget and planning and other standing commissions of the chambers of the USSR Supreme Soviet in preliminary consideration of the state plan for economic and social development of the USSR for 1980, the progress in fulfilling the 1979 plan, and a report on the fulfillment of the budget for 1978.

It was pointed out at the meeting that the Budget and Planning and other standing commissions of the chambers have done a great deal of work. It was carried out taking into consideration the CPSU Central Committee decision on perfecting the economic mechanism and improving planning. This has made it possible to raise the activity and exactingness of deputies and to approach specific problems with new criteria and evaluation.

It was pointed out that after the state plan becomes law it is essential for the standing commissions to insure daily and strict supervision of its fulfillment. Success in this matter depends largely on the skillful and purposeful use of the possibility of the supreme organ of power's influence on social life and the national economy. It was stressed that in this one should be steadfastly guided by the directions of Comrade Brezhnev.

The Presidium discussed the draft law on people's control in the USSR which is submitted to the session of the USSR Supreme Soviet for consideration. It was pointed out that the draft law stems fully from the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress, subsequent plenums of the party Central Committee and the provisions of the USSR Constitution. It rests on the Leninist principles of organization and activity of people's control.

In discussing this question it was pointed out that the organs of people's control are called on to play an important role in the solution of the tasks laid down by the party to bring into effect all internal reserves and secure everywhere the strictest guidance over the economy and the rational use of raw materials and supplies, electric power, fuel, material and labor resources.

The Presidium discussed draft laws on the USSR Supreme Court, the USSR Procurator's Office, state arbitration in the USSR and on the legal profession in the USSR. It was pointed out that these draft laws reflect the Communist Party's line for the further development of socialist democracy and for enhancing the protection of Soviet law.

These laws will promote the improvement of the work of all Soviet law-maintaining organs, the raising of initiative and principledness in their activities, and role and responsibility in the solution of the task of the further strengthening of socialist legality.

The adoption of the new laws will be a specific and important step in the implementation of the decision of the CPSU Central Committee on the improvement of work in maintaining law and order and strengthening the fight against law-breaking.

The decision was taken to submit the bills on people's control in the USSR, on the USSR Supreme Court, on the USSR Procurator's Office, on state arbitration in the USSR and on the legal profession in the USSR for consideration by the USSR Supreme Soviet.

The Presidium discussed the question of submitting for endorsement by the USSR Supreme Soviet the decrees of the Supreme Soviet Presidium taken in the period between the first and second sessions.

Taking part in the discussion of questions of the agenda were Comrades Grishin, Kunayev, Romanov, Tikhonov, and Shcherbitskiy, members of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo; Gorbachev, Masherov, Rashidov, candidate members of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo; Georgadze, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; Vashchenko and Maslennikov, chairmen of the budget and planning commissions of the chambers of the USSR Supreme Soviet; Smirnov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Court; and Rudenko, USSR procurator general.

SECOND SESSION OF USSR SUPREME SOVIET 10TH CONVOCATION HELD

Session Opens

LD280826 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 28 Nov 79 LD

[Text] The Second Session of the USSR Supreme Soviet of the 10th Convocation opened today in the Great Kremlin Palace.

The deputies and guests welcomed with tumultuous and prolonged applause Comrades Brezhnev, Andropov, Grishin, Gromyko, Kirilenko, Kunayev, Pelshe, Romanov, Suslov, Tikhonov, Ustinov, Chernenko, Shcherbitskiy, Aliyev, Gorbachev, Demichev, Kuznetsov, Masherov, Ponomarev, Rashidov, Solomentsev, Shevardnadze, Kapitonov, Dolgikh and Rusakov.

The deputies approved the session's agenda. A report on the first point of the agenda, on the state plan for economic and social development of the USSR in 1980 and on the progress of fulfillment of the plan in 1979, is being delivered by Deputy Baybakov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR State Planning Committee.

Joint Session Ends

LD281220 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 28 Nov 79 LD

[Excerpt] Our correspondents report from the Kremlin:

The first joint meeting of the Soviet of the Union and the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet has ended. The deputies have listened to reports on the drafts for the economic and social development plan and budget of our country for 1980.

SOVIET OF NATIONALITIES BEGINS SESSION IN KREMLIN

LD281222 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 28 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Our special correspondents report from the Kremlin:

The first meeting of the Soviet of Nationalities, one of the two chambers of the USSR Supreme Soviet enjoying equal rights is now beginning. The morning meeting of the session of the country's highest organ of state power approved the agenda and listened to the reports on its first point, on the drafts for the state plan for economy and social development and for the state budget of the USSR for next year, 1980. The debates on these drafts will be held separately in the two chambers. At the first meeting of the Soviet of Nationalities the deputies will listen to the report by the budget and planning and other standing commissions of the chamber. Then discussion of the drafts for the economic and social program and for the budget of our country for the final year of the 10th 5-Year Plan period will begin.

CPSU CENTRAL AUDITING COMMISSION MEETING HELD 27 NOV

LD2722004 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 27 Nov 79 LD

[Text] A meeting of the CPSU Central Auditing Commission was held on 27 November. Comrade Sizov, chairman of the commission, delivered a report on the work of the CPSU Central Auditing Commission for 1979.

The plan of the work of the CPSU Central Auditing Commission for 1980 was examined and confirmed at the meeting.

IZVESTIYA ON MEETING OF PREPARATORY COMMISSION ON TRANSPORT

LD270923 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 4 Nov 79 Morning Edition p 2 LD

[V. Mussalitin report under the rubric "In the USSR Supreme Soviet Chamber Standing Commissions": "Efficient Service for Transport and Communications"]

[Text] The joint preparatory commissions of deputies set up by the standing commissions of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Soviet of the Union and Soviet of Nationalities are continuing preliminary examination of the draft state plan for the country's economic and social development and the country's draft state budget for 1980, progress in the fulfillment of the current year's plan, and a report on the fulfillment of the 1978 USSR budget.

Our report today is about a session of the Preparatory Commission on Transport and Communications. This subcommission is headed by Hero of Socialist Labor Nikolay Vasilyevich Cherskiy, chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Academy of Sciences Siberian Section, Yakutsk Branch. The commission includes the following: Kanali Zhanaliyevich Syrlybayev, locomotive driver and instructor at the Chelkar station locomotive depot on the Aktyubinsk section of the West Kazakhstan railroad; Anatoliy Andreyevich Alimov, chief of the Dnepr Railroad; Yevgeniy Fedorovich Kurakin, chairman of Chelyabinskiy Oblispolkom; Levan Grigoryevich Vardosanidze, chief of the Transcaucasus Railroad; Stanislav Aleksandrovich Lukyanchenko, chief of the Black Sea Shipping Line; and Leonid Vladimirovich Markin, director of the Lenin transport machine-building plant in Barnaul.

Everyone knows how much depends on the efficient, smooth working of transport and communications, which is why, in studying the sections of the 1980 draft plan and budget which discuss the development of these sectors, the deputies of the country's supreme organ of power took a great interest in every single figure. The work of this commission, like that of the other preparatory commissions, of course, is distinguished by creative quest.

The deputies listened to reports from the USSR Gosplan, the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology, the USSR Ministry of Finance, the USSR Ministry of Civil Aviation and the USSR Ministry of Communications.

It was noted in the course of the session that all types of transport in the country have been further developed. A considerable amount of work has been done in raising the technical standard of transport and equipping it with new, highly productive technical facilities. This year the development of the most progressive and efficient types of transport continued at increasing preferential rates which facilitated more rational distribution of shipments between the different types of transport. The technical and economic standard of transport has improved. The volume of freight shipments made in all-purpose containers, including large containers, increased in rail, sea, river and motor vehicle transport. Under these conditions the accelerated introduction of the achievements of scientific and technical progress in all sectors of the transport system acquires great importance.

The replacement of obsolete rolling stock, new, more progressive types of electric and diesel locomotives and cars has continued in railroad transport in the current year. Work on assimilating the production of track vehicles for capital and medium track repairs has been continued and work has started on creating a number of machines for running track maintenance.

The following can be called the main trends in the work of motor vehicle transport: the creation of a truck pool to match the national economy requirements, in particular a sensible distribution of the quota of large and small trucks among the country's trucking enterprises; the introduction of efficient technology and freight shipment organization and the creation of new, more reliable and efficient materials and component assemblies for motor vehicles and more efficient types of fuels and lubricants.

In the civil aviation sphere work has continued on creating new types of aircraft and backup technical facilities. The development and manufacture of technical facilities for mechanizing basic technological processes at airports have continued.

A considerable number of innovations have also emerged in sea and river transport in the 4th year of the 5-year plan. New ships have been built to transport ammonia, the Ilichevsk-Varna ferry route has been inaugurated and transshipment complexes have been constructed in the ports of Leningrad, Tallinn, Arkhangelsk, Tuapse and Tiksi. Bigger sea and river-going ice-breakers have appeared. This allowed this year's navigation season to be started considerably earlier and an additional 9.5 million tons of national economic freight to be shipped. Specialists believe that the extension of shipping after the onset of the ice will make it possible to ship a further 8-10 million tons of freight.

Increasing use is being made in transport of containerized and packaged freight shipments. Specialists are of the opinion that containerization can save approximately R12 million and free more than 1,500 workers for the national economy per 1 million tons of freight, which is why such great significance has been attached this year to work on producing new technical facilities for containerized and packaged shipments.

The country's communications have also been developing successfully this year. The network of intercity telephone lines has expanded, the capacity of telephone exchanges in cities and rural areas has increased considerably, there are more comprehensively mechanized mail sorting offices and powerful new television stations have been constructed. Working conditions have improved appreciably for communications workers. In accordance with the plan and with the recommendations of the USSR Supreme Soviet chamber standing commissions, some 2,000 Onega system computers are to be introduced this year and the number of comprehensively mechanized mail sorting offices is to be increased.

Evaluating the work of transport and communications sectors and their plans for the coming year, members of the preparatory commission touched in their speeches on questions of raising production efficiency and quality, of introducing the achievements of science, technology and leading experience, of labor organization, cadre training, capital construction and fuller utilization of reserves.

Analyzing the progress made in fulfilling the plan by all modes of transport, the deputies noted that, despite the constant rise in the technical standard of transport facilities, the transport system as a whole and especially railroad transport is still failing to meet transport needs of the national economy and the population.

The deputies sharply criticized the Ministry of Railways for the low utilization indicators applicable to rolling stock on the railroads. One cause of this lies in the above-norm times which freightcars spend standing idle at service depots and enterprise sidings and in a slackening of technological discipline on a number of railroads.

Deputies B.V. Isayev, S.A. Lukyanchenko and N.V. Cherskiy suggested that the Ministry of Railways and the other ministries responsible for the successful work of the sector must arrange their work in accordance with the demands of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolution "On Improving Planning and Stepping up the Influence of the Economic Mechanism on Raising Production Efficiency and Work Quality."

The preparatory commission sessions were businesslike and constructive. Speaking of the shortcomings in the work of railroad transport, deputies drew attention to the fact that little is being done to raise the general technical standard of the car pool. [paragraph continues]

There is still a large proportion of cars built earlier to low technical requirements. These cars are constantly needing repair, overloading inadequate [defitsitnyy] repair facilities and making additional difficulties in railroad operations. Railroad transport is also failing to fulfill the indicators outlined in the 5-year plan for average daily freightcar productivity and average freight trainload.

The deputies noted the persistently low standard of the organization of passengers services at stations and ports and during travel, and also spoke about unsatisfactory performance in supplementing the Ministry of Railways' pool with specialized cars. Plans for assimilating their production and for their delivery are not being fulfilled. The conversion of the car pool to roller bearings is also being completed somewhat slowly. The preparatory commission's work resulted in the inclusion of proposals in the "Transport and Communications" department for inclusion in the Soviet of the Union and Soviet of Nationalities standing commissions' findings on the country's plan and budget for the concluding year of the 10th 5-Year Plan.

BREZHNEV CONGRATULATES UKRAINIAN CANAL BUILDERS

LD271449 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Nov 79 p 1 LD

[Text] To the participants in the construction of the Kakhovka Main Canal in the Ukrainian SSR:

I wholeheartedly congratulate the workers, engineers, technicians and all collectives of the organizations and enterprises which took part in the planning and construction of the Kakhovka main canal on a great labor victory--completing the construction of and commissioning the canal.

The commissioning of this main waterway is of important significance for the all-round intensification of agricultural production and the creation, in the arid steppes of the Ukraine, of a large region where the production of grain, vegetables, meat, milk and other agricultural produce is guaranteed. The kolkhozes and sovkhozes of Khersonskaya and Zaporozhskaya oblasts have already been presented with 110,000 irrigated hectares on which good, steady harvests are being raised. In the long term about 1 million hectares of land will be irrigated on the basis of the canal.

The Kakhovka Canal is a unique installation incorporating our own and foreign experience of waterway construction. Efficient means of preventing water losses and the automation of water distribution have been used and the irrigation systems are constructed with enclosed pipelines and highly productive sprinkler equipment.

The successful completion of the canal's construction is the result of the selfless, constructive labor of construction and land reclamation workers and great organizational and political work by party, soviet, trade union and Komsomol organizations.

The CPSU Central Committee expresses the firm conviction that the water resources organization and agricultural collectives will continue to work persistently on the implementation of the party's long-term land reclamation program and will make a fitting contribution to the implementation of the 25th CPSU Congress decisions.

I wish you, dear comrades, good health and new labor successes.

[Signed] L. Brezhnev.

COSMOS-1145 SATELLITE LAUNCHED ON 27 NOVEMBER

LD271508 Moscow TASS in English 1505 GMT 27 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, November 27, TASS--A new artificial earth satellite, Cosmos-1145, was launched in the Soviet Union today to continue the exploration of outer space. It has been put into an orbit with the following parameters: initial period of revolution 97.3 minutes, maximum distance from the earth 652 kilometres, minimum distance 629 kilometres, the orbit's inclination 81.2 degrees.

Instruments aboard the satellite are functioning normally.

ANIMALS, PLANTS SHOW NO ILL EFFECTS FROM SPACE FLIGHT

LD231310 Moscow TASS in English 1158 GMT 23 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, November 23, TASS--No pathological changes in the conditions of weightlessness occurred in animals that withstood a space flight from September 25 to October 14 on the Soviet biological satellite Cosmos-1129. This conclusion was made by Soviet scientists and their colleagues from other countries who took part in a joint experiment.

Rats that were kept aboard the satellite have been subjected to checks. Biological material is being analysed.

Specialists established that animals in orbit were gaining weight as much as other animals of the species in the control group on the ground. The daily rhythm of biological processes in rats in orbit corresponded to the rhythm of biological processes of these animals on the ground. Functional tests during the change of the light regime showed that the process of adaptation to new conditions takes as much time in animals in space as on the ground.

Weightlessness and lack of gravity are no obstacle to the development of embryos either. This important conclusion was made by scientists on the basis of the data of checks on animals during the flight and after the flight.

Space experiments with plants are also being analysed. For instance, flowers started blooming in space and their seeds were obtained later on the ground. It was established that weightlessness has no negative effect on the forming of flower and seeds.

The observations over animals and biological material that was kept onboard the Cosmos-1129 satellite continues. Taking part in them are specialists of the Institute of Medico-Biological Problems of the USSR Ministry of Health, of corresponding institutions of countries of the socialist community that took part in the experiments, as well as scientists of the USA and France.

PRAVDA ON NUCLEAR REACTOR CONSTRUCTION PROBLEMS, DEVELOPMENT

LD201439 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 November 1979 publishes on page 2 a 1,600-word Leningrad dispatch from PRAVDA correspondent V. Senin under the headline "'Atommash' on the Izhora." The article describes the work of the Izhorskiy Zavod production association in manufacturing "nuclear steam-generating installations for nuclear power stations, including reactors with a capacity of 1 million kilowatts." Senin outlines some of the technical difficulties in constructing high capacity nuclear reactors and notes current developments at the association.